



# Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO)

## What is MWELO?

The Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance is a statewide water conservation law for new and renovated landscapes. The ordinance applies to any single-family or multi-family residential, public, institutional, or commercial project that requires a permit, plan check or design review from the local reviewing agency and meets one of the following size thresholds:

- **New construction projects** with a total landscape area greater than **500 sq ft**
- **Rehabilitations of existing landscape** with a total landscape area greater than **2,500 sq ft**

## Submittal Requirements

### Prescriptive Compliance Option

If your development proposes less than 2,500 square feet of total landscape area you can use the prescriptive compliance option. **Before construction**, submit the following documents to the local reviewing agency:

- Landscape Design Plan
- Project Information
- Prescriptive Path (Appendix D) Checklist

**At the final inspection**, submit the following document to the property owner:

- Certificate of Completion
- Certificate of Installation
- Irrigation Schedule
- Schedule of landscape and Irrigation Maintenance

### Performance Compliance Option

**Prior to landscape construction**, submit a signed **Landscape Documentation Package** along with your building permit application.

This includes:

- Project Information
- Water Budget/Water Use Calculator
- Soil Management Report
- Landscape Design Plan, Plant Legend and Specifications
- Irrigation Plan
- Hydrozone Plan
- Grading Plan

**After the permit is approved and the landscape installed**, submit a **Certificate of Completion** which includes:

- Project Information
- Certification that landscape is built per plans
- As-built drawings (if necessary to show major changes)
- Irrigation diagram showing hydrozones
- Irrigation scheduling parameters
- Landscape and Irrigation Maintenance Schedule
- Irrigation Audit Report
- Soil Report (if not submitted during design)
- Verification of implementation of report recommendations