



WELO: FOR AGGREGATE LANDSCAPE AREAS > 500-2,500 SQ. FT **LANDSCAPE DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST**

PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE PATHWAY

The Prescriptive Pathway is intended for smaller scale, single-family and light commercial projects to comply by meeting minimum requirements in a cost-effective way. This checklist is required for projects proposing landscaping (new/modified, retrofit/rehabilitated) between 500-2,500 sq. ft. to demonstrate compliance pursuant to the Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance (WELO) ([LMC Ch. 6-24.5](#)) and [CCR, Title 23, Ch. 2.7](#). More information regarding WELO requirements can be found at: www.lovelafayette.com/welo

APPLICABILITY

This Pathway applies to public projects, private residential and non-residential landscape projects that require a permit, plan check or design review for the following:

- A new building with an aggregate **landscape area** \geq 500 sq. ft. to 2,500 sq. ft. (e.g., irrigated planting area, **turf**/mowed grass, **water feature**, ponds, fountains, spas, swimming pool)
- New landscape \geq 500 sq. ft. to 2,500 sq. ft. such as a park, playground, or greenbelt without an associated building
- **Rehabilitated landscape** with an aggregate landscape area \geq 2,500 sq. ft.

DEFINITIONS

- **Landscape area** includes all the planting areas, turf areas, and water features in a landscape design plan subject to the Maximum Applied Water Allowance calculation. The landscape area does not include footprints of buildings or structures, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, decks, patios, gravel or stone walks, other pervious or non-pervious hardscapes, and other non-irrigated areas designated for non-development (e.g., open spaces and existing native vegetation).
- **Rehabilitated landscape**: Re-landscaping project with modified landscape area (all planting area, turf areas, and water features).
- **Turf**: Ground cover surface of mowed grass (WELO does not apply to artificial turf).
- **Water feature**: A design element where open water performs an aesthetic or recreational function. Water features include ponds, lakes, waterfalls, fountains, artificial streams, spas, and swimming pools (where water is artificially supplied). The surface area of water features is included in the high water use hydrozone of the landscape area. Constructed wetlands used for on-site wastewater treatment or stormwater best management practices that are not irrigated and used solely for water treatment or stormwater retention are not water features and, therefore, are not subject to the water budget calculation.

REQUIRED LANDSCAPE DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE MATERIALS

- 1. [Water Efficient Landscape Worksheet](#)** – can be incorporated into construction plan set
- 2. Landscape and Irrigation Design Plan** (incorporated into construction plan set). The plans shall:
 - Note sq. ft. new landscaping and rehabilitated landscaping (includes pools and water features)
 - Include a plant list with botanical and common names, WUCOLS factor, Sunset and/or USDA Hardiness zone, the total quantity of each plant, and average spread of each tree.
- 3. Appendix D Checklist** (see following page)

WELO: Prescriptive Compliance Pathway Checklist

(For Aggregate Landscape Areas 500 sq. ft. to 2,500 sq. ft.)

APPENDIX D CHECKLIST

PURSUANT TO CA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 23, CH. 2.7

ELEMENT	STANDARDS	PLAN SHEET #
Soil Preparation	Incorporate compost at a rate of at least four (4) cubic yards per 1,000 sq. ft. to a depth of 6" into landscape area (unless contra-indicated by a soil test).	
	Apply a minimum 3" layer of mulch on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas, except in areas of turf, creeping, rooting groundcovers, or direct seeding applications where mulch is contraindicated.	
Plants	<p>Residential: Install climate adapted plants that require occasional, little or no summer water. 75% of landscape, excluding edibles and areas using recycled water, shall consist of plants that average a WUCOLS plant factor of 0.3. WUCOLS plants database can be found online at: http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/</p> <p>Non-residential: 100% of the plant area, excluding edibles and areas using recycled water, shall consist of plants that average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3).</p> <p>WUCOLS project average calculation formula: [(# of Very low water use plants x 0.1 plant factor) + (# of Low water use plants x 0.2 plant factor) + (# of Moderate water use plants x 0.5 plant factor) + (# of High water use plants x 0.85 plant factor)] / Total number of plants</p>	
Turf Limits	<p>Residential: Total turf area shall not exceed 25% of the landscape area.</p> <p>Non-residential: Turf is not allowed in non-residential projects.</p>	
	Turf is not permitted on slopes greater than 25%.	
	Turf is prohibited in parkways less than 10' wide, unless the parkway is adjacent to a parking strip and used to enter and exit vehicles.	
	Any turf in parkways must be irrigated by sub-surface irrigation or by other technology that creates no overspray or runoff.	
Irrigation System	<p>The irrigation plans, at a minimum, shall contain the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location and size of water meters for landscape (if a separate water meter is installed) • Location, type, and size of all components of the system, including, at a minimum, main and lateral lines 	
	<p>Automatic irrigation controllers are required and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must use evapotranspiration or soil moisture data and utilize a rain sensor. • Shall be a type that does not lose programming data in the event of power source interruption. • Have pressure regulators installed on the irrigation system to ensure the dynamic pressure of the system is within the manufacturers recommended pressure range. 	
	Manual shut-off valves (such as a gate valve, ball valve, or butterfly valve) shall be installed as close as possible to the point of connection of the water supply.	
	All irrigation emission devices meet the ANSI standard, ASABE/ICC 802-2014. "Landscape Irrigation Sprinkler and Emitter Standard," All sprinkler heads installed must document a distribution uniformity low quarter of 0.65 or higher using the protocol defined in ASABE/ICC 802-2014.	
	Areas less than 10' in any direction utilize sub-surface irrigation or other technology that prevents overspray or runoff.	
	Non-residential: Install a private landscape submeter with landscape areas of ≥ 1,000 sq. ft.	

AGREEMENTS

- The property owner will be provided/have a certificate of completion, certificate of installation, irrigation schedule and a schedule of landscape and irrigation maintenance at the time of final inspection.
- I agree to comply with the requirements of the WELO Prescriptive Compliance Pathway and submit a completed [Certificate of Completion](#) at the time of final inspection.

Signature of property owner or authorized representative

Date