



CITY OF EL CENTRO
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Planning and Zoning Division
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www.cityofelcentro.org/1176/Community-Development

MWELO Project Prescriptive Compliance Form

The Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) was adopted by the State of California to ensure that landscapes are water efficient, to maintain soil health, and to promote stormwater management and erosion control. The City of El Centro is required to implement these measures and has adopted the MWELO for the review of landscaping projects.

Landscaping projects greater than 500 SF and below 2,500 SF may comply using the prescriptive compliance path, and this form is used for those projects. Please complete the entire packet and use the checklist to verify your landscaping project's compliance with the prescriptive compliance method.

PROPERTY OWNER	APPLICANT (if different from Property Owner)
Name:	Name:
Company:	Company:
Phone:	Phone:
Mailing Address:	Mailing Address:
City, State, ZIP:	City, State, ZIP:
Email Address:	Email Address:

PROJECT INFORMATION	
MyGov Project Number:	
Project Address/Location:	
Project Type: ☐ Multi-Family Residential ☐ Single-Family Residential ☐ Non-residential	
Total Landscaped Area (square feet):	
Total Turf Area (square feet):	
Water Supply Type: ☐ City of El Centro Potable Water ☐ IID Non-Potable Water ☐ Other: _____	
<i>I certify that this project incorporates landscaping equal to or less than 2,500 square feet, and that this form will be used to identify the prescriptive requirements to be included as part of the landscape project. (Please complete this form specific to the landscape area and identify on the plans the location of each design measure listed in the checklist on the following pages.)</i>	
Signature of Applicant:	Date:

MWELO Prescriptive Compliance Requirements

Compliance with each of the following items is mandatory and must be documented on the landscape and irrigation design plan submitted with this form.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN PLAN		
Applicant	Requirement	Reviewer
☐	Total landscaped area, in square feet	☐
☐	Square footage of landscaped area used by turfgrass	☐
☐	Square footage of landscaped area used by plant material that is not turfgrass	☐
☐	Botanical name, common name, or cultivar for each plant	☐
☐	WUCOLS plant factor for each species	☐
☐	Area in square feet per species or per plant group, not just quantities	☐
☐	Turfgrass area called out separately, in square feet and as a percentage of the landscape area	☐
☐	Areas excluded from the plant factor calculation identified separately: edible plantings and recycled water areas, per § 492(c)(3)(A)–(B)	☐

COMPOST AND MULCH		
Applicant	Requirement	Reviewer
☐	Incorporate compost at a rate of at least four cubic yards per 1,000 square feet to a depth of six inches into the landscape area (unless contraindicated by a soil test). Soils with greater than 6% organic matter in the top six inches of soil are exempt from adding compost and tilling. This project will apply _____ cubic yards of compost.	☐
☐	A minimum three-inch (3") layer of mulch shall be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas, except in turfgrass areas, creeping or rooting groundcovers, or direct seeding applications where mulch is contraindicated.	☐

IRRIGATION SYSTEM		
Applicant	Requirement	Reviewer
☐	For non-residential projects with landscape areas of 1,000 square feet or more, a dedicated irrigation meter or private submeter(s) to measure landscape water use shall be installed.	☐
☐	Automatic irrigation controllers are required and must use either evapotranspiration (weather-based) or soil moisture (sensor-based) data and utilize a rain sensor.	☐
☐	Irrigation controllers shall use non-volatile memory.	☐

IRRIGATION SYSTEM		
Applicant	Requirement	Reviewer
☐	Pressure regulating devices, which may include pressure boosters or reducers, shall be installed on the irrigation system to ensure that the dynamic pressure of the system is within the manufacturer's 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 must meet the requirements set by ANSI in the 2020 ASABE/ICC 802 Landscape Irrigation Sprinkler and Emitter Standard, which is herein incorporated by reference. All sprinkler heads installed in the landscape must document a low-quarter distribution uniformity of 0.65 or higher using the protocol defined in the 2020 ASABE/ICC 802 Standard.	☐
☐	Non-rotating spray sprinkler bodies are required to meet the standards described in the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 4, Chapter 4, Section 1605.3(x).	☐
☐	Landscape areas less than 10 feet in width in any direction shall be irrigated with subsurface irrigation or other means that produce no water waste, runoff, or overspray.	☐

PLANT MATERIAL		
Applicant	Requirement	Reviewer
☐	For residential landscapes, install climate-adapted plants that require occasional, little, or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3) for 75% of the landscape area, excluding areas permanently and solely dedicated to edible plants and areas using recycled water.	☐
☐	For non-residential landscapes, install climate-adapted plants that require occasional, little, or no summer water (average WUCOLS plant factor 0.3) for 100% of the landscape area, excluding areas permanently and solely dedicated to edible plants and areas using recycled water.	☐
☐	Turfgrass shall not exceed 25% of the landscape area in residential landscapes.	☐
☐	There shall be no turfgrass in non-residential landscapes.	☐
☐	Turfgrass shall not be planted on sloped areas that exceed a slope of one foot of vertical elevation change for every four feet of horizontal length.	☐
☐	Turfgrass is prohibited in parkways less than 10 feet wide, unless the parkway is adjacent to a parking strip and used to enter and exit vehicles. Any turfgrass in parkways must be irrigated by subsurface irrigation or by other technology that creates no water waste, overspray, or runoff.	☐