

RAE Subdivision County Water and Sewer District No. 313

Ordinance No. O-072022

An Ordinance establishing Landscaping Criteria for Water Conservation for new developments in the RAE Water and Sewer District.

Purpose and Intent:

The purpose and intent of this Ordinance is to limit the amount of water used in outdoor lawn watering. Outdoor lawn watering is the single largest water use in the district. The District is located in the Gallatin Valley, which is a semi-arid region. Water supply is limited and expensive to develop. By setting landscaping criteria for new development, water can be conserved.

Article 1: Turf Grass

Turf grass shall not be more than 70% of the available landscape area. Available landscape area is defined as the area left after subtracting out the building area and the hardscape area (non-permeable surfaces such as concrete and asphalt). Basically, available landscape area is the permeable area of the yard after subtracting out the building area, driveway, walkways, and patios.

Currently, turf grass is estimated to take up 90% of available landscape area in the District.

Article 2: Mulched or gravel areas

All trees and shrubs on the property shall be placed within a mulched or graveled area. These areas shall constitute the remainder of the landscape area. Even lone trees shall contain a circular mulched or graveled area approximately 5 feet in diameter to help promote water percolation to the roots (note: turf grass will consume almost all of the spray irrigated water and will leave little water for the tree roots). These areas can be designed for ease of mowing around the trees and shrubs.

Article 3: Landscape map

As a requirement to obtaining an individual District Permit for water and sewer service (obtained when the building contractor picks up the water meter). A simple landscape plan is required to be turned in. The plan shall show:

- Lot area,
- building area,
- hardscape area,
- turf grass area, and
- mulched or gravel area.

The turf grass area and available landscape area shall be noted in square feet on the drawing. The percentage of turf grass shall be clearly noted.

Article 4: Park and Common area watering

Where possible, RAE Water encourages developers to water park and other common areas using exempt landscaping wells. This will reduce the demand on the public water system.

===== END =====

Be it ordained by the Board of Directors of the RAE Water and Sewer District that the above Landscaping Ordinance be adopted as written.

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DATED this 20th day of July 2022.

THIS ORDINANCE was moved by

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RAE SUBDIVISION COUNTY WATER
AND SEWER DISTRICT #313.

_____,
(board member)

and seconded by

_____.
(board member)

Perry Hofferber, Vice President

Rich McLane, Member

A quorum being present, a voice vote was
taken. Of the board members present

_____ voted in favor,

Nikki Penniman, Member

_____ voted against and

Andrew Williamson, Member

_____ abstained.

ATTEST:

The resolution was therefore passed and
adopted.

Valerie Nolan, Secretary