

# Central Irrigation System (CIS) Abuse Procedures

This White Paper explains the process the CDD will go through if it determines that homeowners are intentionally trying to circumvent the CIS system, risking damage and causing havoc to the rest of the irrigation system users.

## **Background:**

The Central Irrigation System (CIS) was purchased by the CDD at the time the bonds were re-financed in order to purchase our water rights from the developer and prevent further payments for the water found under our property.

The CDD ownership goes to and includes the decoder to communicate with the individual zone solenoid valves. Those valves are the responsibility of the homeowner and are **not** the property of the CDD as a part of the CIS.

That said, the CDD controls the system, and has the right to terminate service to any homeowner that does not make proper repairs to his equipment on his property and/or disrupts the proper operation of the system. Proper notice should be given to the homeowner prior to termination of his service and will be confirmed by a letter from the District's attorney to prevent backlash.

No owner should have the right to disrupt or adversely affect the system in its service to the other homeowners. This includes homeowners who open valves on their own, thereby causing watering of their property every time the system is on. This defeats the purpose of the scheduling algorithm, may affect the water pressure (which is carefully calibrated to serve groups of owners) and can damage the pumps and other system components.

If we find that home owners are explicitly trying to circumvent the system, or take advantage of the watering scheme, we will take steps to stop the intrusion, and prevent damage to our system. This may include disconnecting the abusing user from the irrigation system.

## **The Process:**

*First*, we attempt to visit the homeowner in person, explain what problems they are causing in the 'system' by leaving the valves open, and ask them politely to stop and refrain from doing so;

*Next*, we send a letter from the District Manager giving 10 days to cure the defect, with an explanation of how this defect is affecting the integrity of the system for all. Also note that they are in violation of Manatee county watering restrictions, and could face fines for illegal water use;

*Third*, a letter from the District Attorney will be sent, advising that irrigation service will be terminated if the defect is not corrected in a specific period of time.

*Lastly*, a directive to the system operator to discontinue service to that homeowner until the defect is corrected.

Hopefully, we do not need to get to denial of service before the homeowner realizes this is not a fight they can win.

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CDD