



## “Smart” Irrigation Controller/Timer Rebate Program for Non-Residential Water Users

### PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

Rebates of \$200 are available to Homeowner Association (HOA), commercial and schools that install Smart Irrigation Controllers, also known as weather-based or Evapotranspiration (ET) controllers. Smart Irrigation Controllers provide the appropriate watering schedule for the landscape automatically making adjustments up to 365 times per year. These irrigation controllers use current weather data and information about site conditions (such as soil moisture, rain, wind, slope, soil, plant type, and more), and apply the right amount of water to the landscape based on those factors. Studies show most landscape water use can be reduced by as much as 30 percent with the use of a smart controller. However, this technology does not compensate for a poorly designed irrigation system or one that is inefficient. Therefore, the irrigation system should be in good working order.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Homeowner Associations, commercial and school properties that are Avondale utility customers who use potable water to irrigate common area landscaping on a continual basis and meet the program requirements stated below. Applicant must be duly authorized by the HOA Board and be the Property Manager or Homeowner Association President.

### REQUIREMENTS

1. Total turf area irrigated by one controller must exceed 5,000 square feet. This excludes granite landscaped sections. The 5,000 square feet of turf does not need to be contiguous.
2. Smart Controllers must utilize one of the following technologies:
  - a. Historical ET information programmed into the controller and accompanied with an active rain shut off and temperature sensor, or
  - b. On-site weather station connected directly to the controller, or
  - c. Controller capable of receiving ET data from regional weather stations through satellite feeds.
3. The irrigation system should be in excellent condition, free from leaks, malfunctioning valves or emitters. Issues with water pressure, poor design, soil compaction, slopes and basins, or mixed sprinkler heads, etc., will influence irrigation efficiency. A water audit is recommended for turf areas if one has not been performed within the last two years.
4. The landscape contractor and/or HOA Board agrees to participate in training to operate the controller.
5. The HOA Board agrees to allow the City to use water consumption data for educational purposes.
6. An HOA property is eligible to receive a maximum of up to five (5) Smart Irrigation Controller rebates. One controller per application. Rebate(s) will be issued upon final installation and inspection of Smart Irrigation Controller(s).
7. If the HOA Board chooses a controller using regional weather stations through satellite feeds, it must purchase a two-year subscription for the monthly service needed to supply each controller with daily weather data.
8. Conversions must have occurred on or after July 1, 2009.
9. Rebate application must be completed and submitted by applicant.
10. An inspection must be completed after installation of the controller to determine if it meets the requirements of this policy. Contact a Water Conservation Staff member at (623) 333-4422 to schedule an appointment for inspection.
11. A copy of the dated sales receipt of purchase for the controller must be submitted.
12. Two to three weeks after installation and inspection of “Smart” Irrigation Controllers, a check will be issued and mailed via U.S. Post to the address on your application form.

### NOTE

*The number of rebates awarded each year will depend on availability of funds. Rebates are awarded in the order the applications are received (from the date that the complete application is received) on a first come, first served basis. Program rules may be changed at any time.*

### QUESTIONS

If you have further questions regarding the “Smart” Irrigation Controller/Timer Rebate Program e-mail the Water Conservation Office at [eavila@avondaleaz.gov](mailto:eavila@avondaleaz.gov) or call (623) 333-4422 for more information.



*FOR OFFICE USE ONLY*

ACCOUNT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

*DATE*

*INITIALS*

INSPECTION REQUIRED/NOT REQUIRED (CIRCLE ONE) \_\_\_\_\_

(IF INSPECTION REQUIRED) INSPECTION COMPLETED \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED (CIRCLE ONE) \_\_\_\_\_

REBATE AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

REBATE ISSUED \_\_\_\_\_