

## **Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor Upgrade Program**

### **Description, Terms, and Conditions**

#### **Purpose:**

In an effort to further improve upon water conservation, the Bay Laurel Center Community Development District (BLCCDD) is conducting a cooperative funding initiative project with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) that will replace three hundred (300) traditional irrigation controllers at residential homes with evapotranspiration (ET) weather-based irrigation controllers and Solar Sync ET rain sensors to reduce irrigation water use.

The Hunter Solar Sync is an EPA WaterSense® labeled smart device which calculates evapotranspiration (ET) and adjusts controllers daily based on local weather conditions, resulting in water savings and conservation. Solar Sync ET sensors measures sunlight and temperature and use the ET calculation to determine the correct seasonal adjustment percentage value to send to the controller. The controller then uses its programmed run time and adjusts to Solar Sync's seasonal adjustment value to modify the actual irrigation run time for that day. Available research on ET controllers shows that these devices can save more than 30% in irrigation use.

In addition, the Solar Sync ET sensor integrates Hunter's popular Rain-Clik and Freeze-Clik sensors providing quick response in shutting down your irrigation system during rain and/or freezing conditions. Most rain-sensing devices work by accumulating a set amount of rainfall before a switch is activated that interrupts the circuit from the controller and shuts off the system. In that "accumulation time", the system will unnecessarily continue to water. The Hunter Rain-Clik can command a controller to shut off right when it starts to rain. Once freezing temperatures are detected, Freeze-Clik will automatically shut an irrigation system down. When the temperature returns to an irrigation-friendly level, Freeze-Clik allows scheduled programming to run.



#### **Cost:**

The program will provide a reimbursement to participating residents up to \$440.00 for installing the above described equipment. The BLCCDD and SWFWMD will each contribute 50% of the reimbursement (including installation) of each Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor.

## **Process:**

The following procedure will be utilized for the determination of qualification and approval of reimbursement:

1. Application is to be submitted with BLCCDD.
  - a. At the time of application BLCCDD staff will determine if the Monthly Average Usage meets the threshold of 14,500 gallons or more.
  - b. If the applicant's monthly usage is 14,500 gallons or more then the applicant will schedule a date and time for BLCCDD to perform a site visit.
2. BLCCDD will make a site visit to the home and determine if the home qualifies for the program by meeting the below requirements.
3. The BLCCDD inspector will provide a certificate of qualification allowing the applicant to proceed with hiring a contractor to install the approved components and reimbursement request form.
4. At the completion of installation, the applicant must submit the reimbursement request form to BLCCDD customer service office (5575 SW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road, Ocala, FL 34474) and schedule a date and time for BLCCDD to perform a site visit to ensure the components were installed.
5. After completion of the site visit and determination of compliance with the program BLCCDD will authorize reimbursement.

## **The Applicant Requirements:**

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor Upgrade Program. To qualify for the upgrade program, the applicant must meet and agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. Own a house inside the BLCCDD service area.
2. Monthly Average Usage meets the threshold of 14,500 gallons or more.
3. Currently have an existing irrigation system owned and maintained by applicant that is not considered "Smart Irrigation Technology" with an Evapotranspiration (ET) Sensor.
4. Allow BLCCDD to inspect the existing irrigation system to determine if applicant qualifies for the program and inspect new installation once completed.
5. A maximum of one (1) Irrigation Controller and ET Sensor will be permitted per house.
6. Funding is limited and only three hundred (300) Irrigation Controller / ET Sensors are available until funds run out or the program terminates.
7. The Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor Upgrade Program is contingent upon approval of funding from related parties and in the event funding is not available the program shall be rendered null and void.
8. BLCCDD and the SWFWMD reserve the right to alter this program at any time.
9. Program ends on December 31, 2026.

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(Print Full Name)

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(Signature)

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(Date)

## **Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor Upgrade Program Application**

A Cooperative Funding Program between the Bay Laurel Community Development District (BLCCDD)  
and the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Alt Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Waiver:**

I certify that I have received, read, understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor Upgrade Program. The undersigned expressly agrees that the BLCCDD or its designee may inspect all qualifying Irrigation Controller / ET Sensor installations. I agree that the BLCCDD, SWFWMD, nor any other related entity, (hereinafter the Grantors) do not warrant any equipment or installation to be free of defects, the quality of workmanship, or the suitability of the premises for equipment installation. I acknowledge that I am solely responsible for the operation and continual maintenance of the irrigation system. The undersigned further agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Grantors their directors, officers, employees, vendors, and contractors against all loss, damage, expense, claims, suits and liability, including attorney's fees resulting from the loss, destruction, or damage to property arising out of or in any way connected with the Irrigation Controller & ET Sensor Upgrade Program.

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(Print Full Name)

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(Signature)

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(Date)