

Golf Course Irrigation Prediction and Estimation Worksheet Overview

The Golf Course Irrigation Prediction and Estimation Worksheet is an Excel spreadsheet tool that EPD is proposing for use by golf courses that may be subject to Drought Response Level 2 and 3 watering restrictions in the proposed Rules for Drought Management that are currently being discussed. Under these proposed rules, golf courses who meet their irrigation needs with water obtained through a water withdrawal permit that is not a farm use permit or from a public water supply system would be required to use the Worksheet during Drought Response Level 2 and 3.

The Worksheet was developed by the Center for Irrigation Technology at California State University Fresno to determine water needs for golf courses in Georgia and was submitted to EPD in 2009 by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Georgia as a proposed alternative to the outdoor watering restrictions under the Rules for Outdoor Water Use that were in effect for golf courses within the 55 county area in North Georgia subject to the 2009 Drought Response Level IV declaration. EPD approved the use of the Worksheet in accordance with an order issued by the Director of EPD on May 21, 2009.

The Worksheet uses a mathematical calculation that takes into account local evapotranspiration, distribution uniformity of irrigation, efficiency of the water application, crop coefficients, and local average rainfall to determine the annual irrigation needed to maintain healthy turf grass.