

# Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> Gold Certification Residential Criteria Qualifications Points List

 WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476	 Florida Water Star <sup>SM</sup> Gold	Certifier name	
		Certifier number	
		Certifier telephone number	

This program for new and existing single-family residential construction provides water-efficient options for houses and landscapes. Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> is a service mark of the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) of Florida.

This checklist should be used to determine whether all prerequisites have been met and sufficient points have been achieved to merit Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> certification. For specific details about the criteria described here please refer to the Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> Gold Technical Manual.

## New and Existing House Requirements

To achieve Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> Gold Certification for single-family residential housing:

- 1) All prerequisites must be met and validated by a Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup>
- 2) The minimum points achieved shall total 115, unless property borders a waterbody (125 points), with minimum points per each category totaling:

- Landscape = 45 points**
- Property Bordering Water = 10 points**
- Irrigation = 45**
- Indoor = 25 points**

## General Information

Builder Information		House Information	
Name		Owner name	
Company		Address	
Address		City/county	
City/County		Owner telephone	
Telephone		Owner fax	
Fax		Owner email	
Email		Number of intended occupants	

## Required Submissions

	Yes	No
01.26.09		
<b>Certificate of occupancy</b>		
<b>Landscape design</b>		
<b>Landscape affidavit</b>		
<b>Irrigation design</b>		
<b>Schedule of indoor fixtures and appliances, including performance specifications</b>		

# Landscape

## Prerequisites

**All state, county and municipal codes shall be met** and will supersede items in the prerequisites or points list, unless Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> Gold Certification requirements are more stringent.

Prereq	Description	Yes	No
LS PR 1	High-volume irrigation shall not exceed 50 percent of the total irrigated landscape..		
LS PR 2	Root balls are at least 2.5 ft. on center from the foundation of structure.		
LS PR 3	For in ground irrigation systems, turf grass and landscape bed areas are distinctly separate and micro irrigation is used in landscape beds.		
LS PR 4	Pine bark, melaleuca, pine needles or shredded wood debris shall be used as mulch.		
LS PR 5	Wood-based mulch is applied to a depth of 2 to 4 inches, leaving a 2-inch clear space around plant stems.		
LS PR 6	No invasive plant species are on-site. Invasive plants are identified by the University of Florida/Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences' Assessment of Non-Native Plants and can vary per region: <a href="http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment">http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment</a>		
LS PR 7	Florida Water Star <sup>SM</sup> – Gold Certification requires that all plants be installed according to Florida Green Industry best management practices. The installer of the landscape must attest to this. The documentation must be received prior to certification. (See Attached)		

## Points (Minimum of 45 points required)

Point	Description – Preservation of Existing Vegetation	Points possible	Points earned
LS PT 1	<b>Choose the option that applies:</b>		
	30% or more of the preserved landscape covered by existing non-invasive trees, shrubs or ground covers (not including conservation easements).	15	
	20% or more of the preserved landscape covered by existing non-invasive trees, shrubs or ground covers (not including conservation easements).	10	
	10% or more of the preserved landscape covered by existing non-invasive trees, shrubs or ground covers (not including conservation easements).	5	
LS PT 2	Four or more existing trees or palms greater than 4 inches in diameter at breast height (dbh) are preserved.	15	
Point	Description – Built Landscape or Naturally Vegetated Site	Points possible	Points earned
LS PT 3	Plant selections are compatible with soils and other site-specific growing conditions.	Up to 15	
LS PT 4	Plants are grouped with similar moisture and maintenance requirements.	Up to 15	
LS PT 5	<b>Choose the option that applies:</b>		
	Microrrigated areas are less than 60% of the irrigated landscaped area.	15	
	Microrrigated areas are less than 50% of the irrigated landscaped area.	10	
LS PT 6	Landscape beds have no permanent in ground irrigation system.	Up to 25	
LS PT 7	Plant beds are designed and installed that do not create turf areas of less than four feet.	10	
LS PT 8	<b>Choose the option that applies:</b>		
	Planted trees will provide shade to 40% of landscaped area.	15	
	Planted trees will provide shade to 30% of landscaped area.	10	
LS PT 9	Landscaped maintenance instructions for recommended fertilizer and pesticide applications are permanently posted next to the irrigation controller.	5	
LS PT 10	An organic soil amendment has been incorporated into top layer of existing soil. (Amendment of at least 5% of the soil weight recommended.)	10	
LS PT 11	All downspouts are directed to previous areas, outfall is 2 or more feet from foundation.	5	
LS PT 12	Each new and innovative water conservation technology and features.	Up to 10	
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>145+</b>	

## Property Bordering a Water Body (Minimum of 10 points required)

A letter of modification to any required permits (such as ERP) must have been received by the administrator prior to the grant of certification.

Point	Description	Points possible	Points earned
<b>WB PT 1</b>	A minimum of 6-foot border of unirrigated site-appropriate plants is established on the lot between the lawn and shoreline/seawall.	Up to 10	
<b>WB PT 2</b>	Nonirrigated vegetated terraces, swales or berms are used.	Up to 10	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20</b>	
	<b>Possible maximum landscape total</b>	<b>165+</b>	

# Irrigation

## Prerequisites

**All state, county and municipal codes shall be met** and will supersede items in the prerequisites or points list, unless Florida Water Star<sup>SM</sup> Gold Certification requirements are more stringent.

Prereq	Description	Yes	No
IR PR 1	Irrigation in landscape beds shall be correctly installed micro-irrigation.		
IR PR 2	Irrigation zones for turf grass and landscape beds are separate.		
IR PR 3	High-volume irrigation shall not exceed 50% of the total irrigated landscape.		
IR PR 4	Sprinklers and emitters are located 2.5 feet from structures, at minimum.		
IR PR 5	Irrigation system is free of leaks.		
IR PR 6	Pressure differential between the head closest to the valve and the farthest from the valve shall not exceed 10 percent of the lower psi.		
IR PR 7	Application rates for all sprinklers and emitters within a zone shall be matched.		
IR PR 8	Head spacing does not exceed 90% of the nozzle throw radius.		
IR PR 9	Rotor heads and fixed pattern spray heads shall not be installed in the same zone and do not overlap.		
IR PR 10	Pop-up sprinkler heads sufficiently rise above turf grass height.		
IR PR 11	Application occurs in proper spray patterns minimizing overspray on impervious surfaces.		
IR PR 12	Sprinklers in low-lying areas have check valves.		
IR PR 13	A rain shut-off device is installed in an operable location and is functioning.		
IR PR 14	Each of the following items installed in an operable location and is functioning.		
	-Controller handbook/Operating instructions.		
	- Zone diagram.		
	- Specific zone application rates and maintenance run times.		
IR PR 15	The irrigation schedule is set to operate on a regular maintenance schedule in compliance with applicable irrigation rules, or instructions are posted for adjusting controller schedule to correct maintenance run times.		
IR PR 16	The irrigation schedule for maintenance does not exceed 21 gallons (34 inches) per ft <sup>2</sup> annually.		

## Points (Minimum of 45 points required)

Point	Description	Points Possible	Points Earned
IR PT 1	<b>Choose the option that applies:</b>		
	High-volume irrigation does not exceed 40% of the irrigated landscape area.	20	
	High-volume irrigation does not exceed 30% of the irrigated landscape area.	25	
IR PT 2	Pressure-regulating valves are installed for spray zones.	5	
IR PT 3	Pressure-compensating spray heads are installed for spray zones.	10	
IR PT 4	Leak detection shutoff system is installed.	5	
IR PT 5	In-line pressure regulator limiting pressure to 65 psi or less installed.	5	
IR PT 6	Points can be earned for only one of the following three options.		
	Soil moisture sensor (SMS) controller with one SNS probe is properly installed using approved water tight spliced connectors in the valve box, and is correctly functioning.	15	
	Soil moisture sensor controller (SMS) with multiple SMS probes is properly installed, using approved water tight spliced connectors in the valve box, and is correctly functioning.	20	
	ET, Smart, or weather-based controller is properly installed.	15	
IR PT 7	Nonpotable water source used for irrigation, not including any type of well.	5	
IR PT 8	No permanent inground irrigation is used for site-appropriate/drought-tolerant landscape material.	Up to 75	
IR PT 9	Innovative irrigation water conservation.	Up to 20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Total irrigation points</b>	<b>170+</b>	

## Indoor

### Prerequisites

All requirements specified in Florida Building Code shall be met and supersede items in the prerequisites or points list.

Prereq	Description	Yes	No
<b>IN PR 1</b>	All appliance water supply connections are reinforced.		
<b>IN PR 2</b>	All toilets are high efficiency (HET) of 1.0-1.28 gpf with a UNAR MAP rating of 350 grams or greater or WaterSense labeled.		

### Points (Minimum of 25 points required)

Point	Description	Points Possible	Points Earned
<b>IN PT 1</b>	All water lines in non-conditioned space are insulated.	2	
<b>IN PT 2</b>	All heated water lines in conditioned space are insulated.	2	
<b>Bathroom Fixtures</b>			
<b>IN PT 3</b>	All toilets shall be dual-flush models (with MaP rating of 350 gpf or greater) or are WaterSense labeled dual flush.	10	
<b>IN PT 4</b>	1/4-turn or push-pull valve used for all toilet supply lines.	1	
<b>IN PT 5</b>	Each toilet is equipped with a leak detection shutoff valve.	1 each	
<b>IN PT 6</b>	All showers equipped with a single showerhead with a flow rate less than 2.5 gallons/minute (gpm) or WaterSense labeled.	10	
<b>IN PT 7</b>	For any shower equipped with multiple showerheads that can be used simultaneously deduct 5 points for every emitter over the one at less than 2.5 gpm. (Maximum -25)	-5 per	
<b>IN PT 8</b>	All lavatory sink faucets have WaterSense label or have flow rates less than 1.6 gpm.	4	
<b>Subtotal</b>			
<b>Appliances and Water Heaters</b>			
<b>IN PT 9</b>	1/4-turn or push-pull valve used for all appliance supply lines.	1	
<b>IN PT 10</b>	Energy Star dishwasher using 6.5 gallons per cycle or less is installed.	3	
<b>IN PT 11</b>	Energy Star clothes washer has water factor of 6 gallons or less.	15	
<b>IN PT 12</b>	Point-of-use or on-demand water heater supplying kitchen sink.	6	
<b>IN PT 13</b>	Point-of-use or on-demand water heater supplying dishwasher.	2	
<b>IN PT 14</b>	Maintenance resource guide is left for the homeowner	1	
<b>IN PT 15</b>	Innovative indoor water conservation.	Up to 10	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Total indoor points</b>	<b>68</b>	

## Total Point Summary

Description	Possible Points	Points Required	Points Earned
Landscape	155+	45	
Property Bordering Water	20	10	
Irrigation	170+	45	
Indoors	67	25	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>412+</b>	<b>115/125</b>	

## Landscape Affidavit

*It is required that landscape materials be installed in accordance with Green Industry Best Management Practices. The installer of the landscape must attest and confirm by signing this document that the following practices have been followed:*

General	Completed
Site evaluation was conducted	
Right plant, right place – select plants with attributes that are specific to site conditions	
Plants will not outgrow their allotted space	
Soil has been properly prepared before planting to ensure establishment	
If compacted, soil has been tilled	
LS PT 10, (if selected) organic soil amendments must be added into the top 12 inches of soil	
Planting trees and shrubs	
Root ball was inspected and all soil removed from above the topmost root	
Proper preparation of hole. Measure the distance between the topmost root and the bottom of the root ball. Dig the hole about 10 percent shallower than this depth and as wide as possible (at least one and a half times the width of the ball and even wider in compacted soils).	
For properties bordering a water body (where applicable)	
A 6-foot border of unirrigated, unfertilized site-appropriate plants was established on the lot between the lawn and shoreline/seawall to absorb nutrients.	
Nonirrigated and unfertilized vegetated terraces, swales or berms were used to prevent storm water from entering the natural water body.	

I hereby attest that all the above criteria have been fulfilled.

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Signature

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Date

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Company name

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Phone

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Address

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