



## 2026 Minimizing Golf Course Water Use

Given the expected drought conditions in 2026, we will be following all best management practices for golf course irrigation with the goal of reducing and conserving as much water as possible. We are fortunate to have a well-designed and properly maintained irrigation system that applies water as efficiently as possible with little waste. Below are some specific water conservation steps that we will be taking this season to achieve our goals

1. We will prioritize watering the most important areas and progressively scale back or remove irrigation to lower priority areas as needed.
  - Some native and out of play areas will be non-irrigated for all of 2026
2. ET based irrigation schedules utilizing on-site weather station data
3. Deep and infrequent watering cycles
4. Soil moisture sensors provide readings to help make watering decisions
5. Irrigation audits and catch-can testing
6. Raise cutting heights
7. Restrict golf cart traffic during times of stress
8. Only use water to wash equipment 1x per week, air can be used on other days
9. Minimize and/or eliminate daytime watering to reduce evaporation losses
10. Hand water dry spots so only targeted areas get water
11. Scale back fertilizer applications to reduce top growth that requires more water, and emphasize wetting agent applications to improve water infiltration and retention
12. Education and training of maintenance personnel on the importance of proper water application techniques and using water as efficiently as possible.
13. Postpone major renovation projects that require sod or seeding and intensive daily watering for establishment.

### Water Use Priority List

**Level 1 = Highest Priority**

**Level 7 = Lowest Priority**

Priority Level	Golf Course Area
1	Green Complexes
2	Teeing Grounds
3	Fairways
4	Primary Rough
5	Practice Range
6	Landscape Areas
7	Secondary rough/ out-of-play areas