

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, MODIFYING IRRIGATION RESTRICTIONS; SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-21; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Section 40D-22.401 of the Florida Administrative Code allows local governments to impose restrictions on irrigation, if at least as restrictive as those of the Southwest Florida Water Management District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 74-48 of the City Code of Ordinances, the City of Venice adopted Resolution No. 2007-21 on May 22, 2007, establishing revised irrigation hours for the use of water from public and private water utilities, as well as wells and surface water sources; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2026, the Southwest Florida Water Management District declared a Modified Phase III “Extreme” Water Shortage due to ongoing drought conditions throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Florida Water Management District’s declaration further set forth watering restrictions, effective April 3, 2026, that are applicable to all residents, including those on private wells, throughout the City of Venice, and that are also stricter than the watering restrictions currently in effect in the City of Venice; and

WHEREAS, the City of Venice finds it necessary to update its restrictions on irrigation to remain compliant with state law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Whereas clauses above are ratified and confirmed as true and correct.

SECTION 2. Subject to being superseded by a declaration or another mandate from the Southwest Florida Water Management District imposing stricter restrictions, as provided for in Section 3, herein, the City of Venice establishes the following irrigation hours for use of water from public and private water utilities, as well as the use of wells and surface water sources (ponds, rivers, etc.):

1. Irrigation for sites with addresses that end in odd numbers or the letters A through M may occur on Thursday.

2. Irrigation for sites with addresses that end in even numbers or the letters N through Z may occur on Tuesday.
3. Irrigation is allowed only between the hours of 12:01 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. for properties less than two acres.
4. Irrigation is allowed only between the hours of 12:01 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. for properties two acres and greater.
5. Irrigation for the installation of new plant material (i.e., sod) can occur any time of day on the day of installation and during the restricted hours on any day thereafter for up to sixty days.
6. Irrigation of newly applied fertilizer can be in accordance with the instructions of the supplier.

SECTION 3. In the event of a declaration or another mandate by the Southwest Florida Water Management District imposing irrigation restrictions on the City of Venice that are stricter than those set forth in Section 2, herein, the irrigation restrictions imposed by the Southwest Florida Water Management District shall be deemed adopted by the City and shall take precedence for the effective time period specified by the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

SECTION 4. The City may enforce this Resolution through its code enforcement procedures provided in Chapter 2, Article VI of the City Code of Ordinances in addition to any county or circuit court proceedings..

SECTION 5. Upon a showing of good cause, a property owner may receive a waiver of the watering restrictions in Section 2 from the Director of Utilities, whose decision to grant or deny the waiver shall be final.

SECTION 6. This Resolution shall supersede Resolution No. 2007-21 in its entirety.

SECTION 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VENICE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2026.

Nick Pachota, Mayor

ATTEST

Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk

I, Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Venice, Florida, a municipal corporation in Sarasota County, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and complete, true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by Venice City Council at a meeting thereof duly convened and held on the 14th day of April, 2026, a quorum being present.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of the said city this 14th day of April, 2026

(SEAL)

Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Kelly Fernandez, City Attorney