



## GUIDELINES FOR AN ATHLETIC FIELD CONSERVATION PLAN

Submit plans to: Athletic Fields Conservation Plan  
Conservation Department  
P.O. Box 2449  
San Antonio, Texas 78298

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### **BASIC PLAN GUIDELINES:**

#### **Information to include:**

**Name of School or School District:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a list of schools with athletic fields, including name of school and address. You may also include a contact person at specific schools or facilities if you wish.

**All school campuses that have athletic fields and have not performed the annual irrigation audit due on May 1<sup>st</sup> will have to complete and submit one to SAWS before any variance can be considered.** Those that have a completed audit on file with SAWS may follow the following irrigation schedule:

Each Athletic field can be watered once a week between the times of midnight and 8AM and 8PM to midnight. For campuses with multiple fields, each field may be irrigated on a separate day if time and water pressure does not allow for irrigation of all fields on a single day. For example:

**Mondays – Football Field #1**  
**Wednesday – Football Field #2**  
**Thursdays – Baseball Field**  
**Fridays – Soccer Field**

List each field at your school(s) and tell us what day that field will be watered.

Hand watering, drip or soaker hoses are allowed everyday during the above times. If a single field is too large to be irrigated in a single day you may split the field and water half on one day and half on the other.

## ADVANCED PLAN GUIDELINES:

### Information to include:

Name of School or School District: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit a list of schools with athletic fields, including name of school and address. You may also include a contact person at specific schools or facilities if you wish.

**Location and type of field:** i.e. Brackenridge High School Football Field

**Date of Audit:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name of Auditor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Precipitation Rate:** i.e. 2" per hour **Distribution Uniformity (if known):** i.e. 60%

**Proposed Schedule:** i.e. Monday, Wednesday, Friday for 10 minutes each zone. Total 1" per week per zone. Irrigation to be completed between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM.

Additional days for irrigating a single field will be granted upon completion of an Athletic Field Irrigation Audit. Results of the audit are to be included with the request for extension.

The primary goal of the irrigation audit is to establish precipitation rates (the amount of water distributed through an irrigation system over a certain amount of time, i.e. 2" per hour), and identify distribution uniformity (how evenly the water is being distributed across the field). This is done by placing a number of "catch-cans" out in the field, running the system for a specific amount of time and looking at how much water (in inches) ends up in the bottom of the "catch-can". From here you can figure out how long you need to run the system to apply a certain amount of water. You may also identify "dry spots" and be able to adjust the system accordingly.

A good place to start learning more about athletic field irrigation audits is at the web site A helpful resource for athletic field irrigation audits, can be found on the AggieTurf (<http://aggieturf.tamu.edu/>) Web site sponsored by Texas A&M University.

The target precipitation rate for Bermuda grass athletic fields is 1" per week. If through your audits you found that the irrigation system needs to run for 30 minutes to put down one inch of water you may want to schedule your irrigation for 10 minutes three times a week rather than the 30 minutes once a week.