

Draft Streamlined Landscape Review Process by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission for Urban Agriculture Projects in San Francisco

- a) Urban agriculture irrigation shall not exceed the Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) for edible gardens. Landscape areas that have edible plants are considered a “Special Landscape Area” and receive 30% more water use to account for the higher watering needs of edible plants. The MAWA for edible gardens shall be calculated as:

$$\text{MAWA} = (35.1)(0.62)[(0.7 \times \text{LA}) + (0.3 \times \text{SLA})]$$

Where:

MAWA = Maximum Applied Water Allowance (gallons per year)

35.1 = ETo or Reference Evapotranspiration for San Francisco (inches per yr)
0.62 = Conversion Factor (to gallons)

0.7 = ET Adjustment Factor (ETAF)

LA = Landscape Area including SLA (square feet)

0.3 = Additional Water Allowance for SLA

SLA = Special Landscape Area such as edible plants (square feet)

- b) Projects must submit an Urban Agriculture Project Information Sheet to the General Manager of SFPUC for review and approval prior to installation of the project. The Project Information Sheet shall indicate the following:
- i. Location and account holder information for approved metered water source(s)
 - ii. Total square footage of edible landscape area
 - iii. Description of planting methods: raised beds, planted rows, etc
 - iv. Proposed irrigation method: drip, microspray, hand watering
 - v. Description of irrigation management: head gardener, volunteers, automatic irrigation controller
 - vi. Calculated MAWA for the project
- c) If the urban agriculture project has professional landscape and irrigation design plans, copies shall be submitted to the SFPUC for review along with the Project Information Sheet.
- d) After installation of a project where an automatic irrigation system has been installed, the applicant shall contact the SFPUC Water Conservation Section for a post-installation inspection.
- e) At least one person who will be active in irrigation management and landscape maintenance of the project is encouraged to receive instruction on best management practices in water efficient irrigation.

Proposed Amendment to Urban Agriculture Zoning Ordinance

a new paragraph (c) under proposed Section 102.34

(c) Water Conservation

(1) Any plot of land exceeding 1,000 square feet that is newly established for a use of Neighborhood Agriculture or Urban Industrial Agriculture shall comply with the applicable water use requirements of [Chapter 63 of the Administrative Code](#).

(2) Pursuant to [Section 63.6.2 \(b\) of the Administrative Code](#), no permit for any site where the modified land area exceeds 1,000 square feet shall be issued until the General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission has approved of the applicable landscape project documentation.

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