

IRRIGATION NOTICE • May 15, 2024

We continue to have pressure issues with our irrigation system.

The HOA recently replaced two critical components at our pump site: the pressure tank and the master valve. The master valve is what sends water from the pump into the main water line. The pressure tank creates the pressure to push water into the mainline. That mainline, only several inches in diameter, is what supplies the entire community.

The pump is programmed to run for the residents only on certain days at certain times.

We know a pressure problem exists during a 6:00-8:00PM time slot. We have not observed problems during the other time slots.

We think there are leaks in the residential components of our system (and not in the common area component).

Leaks in the residential areas are very difficult to locate. Our community has close to 200 homes occupying dozens of acres.

We ask that each homeowner test and inspect their system for breaks or leaks. Look for geysers shooting up from the ground, bubbling water or unusual pooling of water. Please let the management company and an HOA board member know if you locate any problems. Repairs on your property are your responsibility and should be repaired immediately.

Problems with common areas are HOA responsibility and should be reported to the management company. Refer to the Crystal Lakes website: crystallakeshoa.com

It's also critical that your irrigation controller is programmed to operate **ONLY** during the time slot assigned on the HOA website. Our pump pulls water from a single well. The pump's rated output capacity is 150 gallons per minute. Too many homes running at the same time creates a demand that the pump cannot fulfill which causes inadequate pressure for everyone.

MAINTAINING YOUR ST. AUGUSTINE GRASS

*Some helpful suggestions
and
The need to adhere to our HOA watering schedule*

Watering:

Routine overwatering will damage your lawn. Many turf professionals recommend watering your lawn twice weekly for 20 or so minutes per zone (about 1 inch to 1.5 inches of water total per week).

Overwatering causes severe fungal issues, root rot and a variety of other problems.

You are likely overwatering if your lawn has dead patches, weed infestation or other lawn maladies.

Please be sure your irrigation controller operates in compliance with the schedule posted on the Crystal Lakes website.

And consider *temporarily* turning off your system when we get a lot of rainfall.

Mowing:

Mowing too short will also damage St. Augustine grass. Many professionals recommend a minimum mowing height of 3-1/2 to 4 inches. This helps shade the root system during hot, sunny periods and insulates the roots during cold periods.

Please consult a lawn expert if your lawn has problems or needs restoration advice or service .
Regularly inspect your irrigation system to keep it in working order. Inspection dates on on the
Crystal Lakes website and please adhere to the irrigation schedule posted on the website