



ENERGY,
INSTALLATIONS,
AND ENVIRONMENT

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3400 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3400

MAR 10 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (INSTALLATIONS,
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (ENERGY,
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(INSTALLATIONS, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY)
DIRECTOR OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTOR OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Water Use for Landscape Architecture on Department of Defense
Installations/Sites

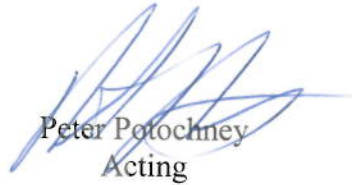
To maintain adequate water resources for our installations, water conservation must be an integral part of facility design and operations. Outdoor water use on Department of Defense (DoD) installations stresses water supplies by contributing to peak demand during summer months, sometimes as much as three to four times the amount used during the winter. Gardening and lawn care account for the majority of this seasonal increase. Every reasonable effort must be made to reduce demand on potable water while seeking opportunities to increase alternative water sources.

It is the Department's policy that DoD Components shall reduce or eliminate the use of potable/domestic water for purposes of landscape architecture maintenance, consistent with existing legal or contractual obligations. The following actions must be undertaken at DoD Installations/Sites:

- 1) Prohibit potable water use to irrigate new landscaping other than for plant establishment;
- 2) Apply drought resistant, water smart, and/or xeriscaping landscape architectural design to all new and updated landscape architecture;
- 3) Prohibit ornamental or potable water features in new landscape design;
- 4) Phase out ornamental or potable water features in older landscape designs. Water features listed on the National Register of Historic Places are exempt;
- 5) Assess irrigated turf grass areas and install non-water intensive native vegetation where reasonable;
- 6) Assess existing landscape irrigation systems for leaks and system inefficiencies, and consider replacing, upgrading, or converting to an alternative water source when reasonable;

- 7) Make water conservation for golf courses a priority, and use alternative water in lieu of potable water if sources are available.

Thank you in advance for your support. If you require more information regarding this policy, please contact Ms. Laura Montoya, at 571-372-6846 or laura.i.montoya.civ@mail.mil.



Peter Potochney
Acting