



## **Proposed Irrigation Sprinkler Ordinance**

### **Summary**

The City is proposing an irrigation sprinkler ordinance that would allow for property owners to install a separate city approved meter for in-ground sprinkler systems. Irrigation sprinklers would be charged a minimum every month, year-round, regardless of water usage. Additional water charges would be applied if usage exceeds 2,500 gallons in one month. Water charges would follow the standard water rate (currently .65 for 100 gallons). Sewer charges will not be applied in these irrigation accounts. Property owners would be required to apply for a plumbing permit and pass inspection prior to the system being turned on. Other requirements and restrictions apply. Please see the city website for more information: [www.ci.foley.mn.us](http://www.ci.foley.mn.us)

- Each irrigation sprinkler must be plumbed separately with its own shut off valve and requires a separate city approved meter in an interior location as approved by the city Building Official or Public Works Department.
- The meter will be purchased and installed at the property owner's expense (estimated cost \$300 for the meter) and will require a plumbing permit approved by the city. The system must be inspected by the Building Official or Public Works prior to use.
- Only hard plumbed sprinkler systems used for lawn irrigation will be approved. The ordinance does not apply to water use for pools, gardens, car washing...etc...
- The water rate for irrigation sprinklers will remain the standard water rate, but no sewer rate will be applied. The current standard water rate for 2023 is .65 for every 100 gallons. The sprinkler water rate will increase as city raises the standard water rate.
- Each sprinkler account will be charged a minimum water charge each month year round regardless of whether or not water is used. All usage above the 2,500 gallons per month will be billed at the standard water rate.

- A disconnection/reconnection fee of \$150 will be applied. If the property owner decides to permanently disconnect their irrigation sprinkler, they must follow a process determined by Public Works to disable the 'T' in the line. Any irrigation meter that is turned off and remains off for over one year will also be subject to the same disabling requirements.
- Irrigation sprinklers will not be allowed to operate between the hours of 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Public Works Director reserves the right to issue watering bans and/or watering restrictions in the case of an emergency per the city ordinance and water supply plan.
- If the property is sold, the owner must disclose the sprinkler agreement to the buyer.