Commercial Vehicle Wash Equipment Evaluation Program

- City Code Chapter 6-4 adopted by Austin City Council - August 2012
- Efficiency standards set by Administrative Rule R161-13.16 - July 2013
- Initial notices mailed 6 months before inspection is due - July 2013
- Inspections due by zip code zone (6 zones in total) - Beginning January 2014
Public engagement on code update & efficiency standards

City Code Chapter 6 – 4 (*Water Conservation*)

- Four separate public meetings/ workshop
- Five stakeholder group meetings, *including with Southwest Car Wash Association, Auto Dealerships, Rentals Companies*
- Three presentations before various Boards and Commissions

Administrative Rule R161-13.16 (*Commercial vehicle wash equipment efficiency program*)

- Public meeting/ workshop
- Stakeholder meetings, *including with Southwest Car Wash Association, Auto Dealerships, Rentals Companies*
- Presentations before various Boards and Commissions
What is a Commercial Vehicle Wash Facility?

Any *commercial property which washes vehicles as any part of their business practice*

Some examples include:

- Commercial car washes
- Auto dealerships
- Car rental
- Businesses with a vehicle fleet
- Body repair shops
Car wash equipment efficiency requirements

1. No water leaks are present in the vehicle washing equipment;

2. In-bay, hand-held spray wash equipment, including a spray wand or foaming brush, does not use more than 3.5 gallons of water a minute and has a trigger shutoff and protective weep;

3. Portable pressure wash equipment must have a spray nozzle with a positive shut off and protective weep mechanism and shall not use more than the following:
   I. 3.5 gallons of water a minute for passenger vehicles including automobiles, delivery vans and buses; or
   II. 10.0 gallons of water a minute for commercial equipment vehicles such as front-end loaders, dump trucks, earth movers or other similar equipment

4. A conveyor or drive through friction system does not use more than 35 gallons for each vehicle.

5. A conveyor or drive through touchless system does not use more than 35 gallons for each vehicle.

6. An in-bay automatic system does not use more than 75 gallons/vehicle for buses and other similar large vehicles.

7. An in bay rollover automatic system does not use more than 45 gallons for each vehicle.

8. Each chamois wringer has a positive shutoff valve.

9. A system using reverse osmosis rinse water must reclaim, and reuse reject water.
Commercial Car Wash Program requirements

• Inspection must be performed by a plumber, licensed by the State of Texas – this means any plumber you choose

• Submit either passing inspection form or compliance plan no more than 90 days prior to due date

• An up-to-date passing inspection form must be on file with Austin Water Conservation in order to operate a Commercial Vehicle Wash Facility

• The passing inspection form must be updated annually with Austin Water, a new inspection must occur each year

• If a property is not able pass an inspection prior to their due date, they must submit a compliance plan detailing what equipment will be deactivated until a passing inspection is received by Austin Water

• Property due dates are determined by zip code and not subject to change without at least 6 months notice
Types of compliance

- Submit a passing inspection form
- Submit a partially passing inspection form with compliance plan detailing which portions of equipment will be deactivated
- Submit a compliance plan affirming that all equipment will be deactivated until a passing inspection can be submitted
- Submit a Does Not Apply form, certifying either the property does not have Austin water or wash vehicles
## Zone 1
Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **January 31**

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## Zone 2
Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **February 28**

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## Zone 3
Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **March 31**

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## Zone 4
Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **April 30**

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## Zone 5
Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **November 30**

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## Zone 6
Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **December 31**

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Successful compliance with efficiency standards & inspection program
Penalties for noncompliance

- Failure to submit inspection by deadline- $200
- $25/ day accrual until Austin Water receives passing inspection or approved compliance plan
Commercial Facility Irrigation Assessments Required

Code Reference: Facilities Regulated: 6-4-10(A)

Effective January 1, 2013, the owner of a commercial, multi-family residential or City municipal facility situated on property equal to or greater than 1.0 acre in size shall obtain an evaluation of any permanently installed irrigation system conducted at a frequency prescribed by rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.
Irrigation Assessment Program Requirements

• Must be performed by a AWU Authorized Irrigation Inspector
  • Property will contact an Authorized inspector
• Are required every 2 years
• Irrigation systems may fail entirely or by zone
• Individual zones may fail requiring a compliance plan – these zones will not be allowed to operate until a compliance plan has been approved
• If the entire irrigation system fails it will not be allowed to operate until a compliance plan has been approved
Irrigation Assessment Zones

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<th>Zone 1</th>
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<td>Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by <strong>May 31</strong></td>
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Notifications sent 6 months before Due date
Reminder sent 2 months before due date
Types of compliance

• No irrigation system on property
  • Submit “Does not Apply” form

• Irrigation system has been abandoned
  • Submit “Compliance Plan” indicating the system is off and will remain off

• Property passes Irrigation Assessment
  • Submit “Irrigation Assessment” form and PASSING “Irrigation Report” (provided by Inspector)

• System partially passes Assessment
  • Submit “Irrigation Assessment”
  • Submit FAILING “Irrigation Report” (provided by Inspector)
  • Submit a map showing zones indicating which stations or areas will be operating
Inspection Divided into two Categories

**Critical**
- A zone or the entire system will fail

**Non – Critical**
- Provided as an efficiency reference and for guidance only
Critical Problems

Items which, if present, will result the property failing the irrigation inspection and prohibit operation of the irrigation system.

Critical problems include:

1. **Leak** – a break or other water containment failure in the irrigation main line or lateral line. A mainline leak will fail the entire irrigation system. A lateral line leak will fail the associated zone.

2. **Broken head** – a missing, cracked, or punctured sprinkler head, sprinkler body, swing joint, or drip line often, but not always, resulting in significant loss of water.

3. **Spray landing in street or parking lot** – a misaligned or inappropriately sized sprinkler head resulting in a spray pattern shooting outside of the landscaped area and falling onto a street or a parking lot.

4. **Runoff / ponding** – in a street or parking lot, water originating from the irrigation system traveling a distance of 50 feet or more, or creating a puddle with a depth measuring ¼” or more.

5. **High pressure / misting** – a sprinkler head operating above its recommended pressure limit resulting in excessive atomization of the spray pattern often resulting in the presence of a mist or fog effect. When conducting an inspection: If misting is present during a visual inspection, measure the dynamic outlet pressure of the sprinkler head. Pressure ceilings for different emitter types are below. Pressure measurements above these ceilings result in failure of that irrigation station. Pressure ceilings are:
   - Spray nozzles: < 40 psi
   - MP or multi-stream rotators: < 50 psi
   - Rotors: < 60 psi
Non-Critical Problems

Items which, if present, serve solely to inform the owner of potential efficiency improvements.

Non-Critical problems include:

- **Not Hydro-zoned** – irrigation stations are not segregated into zones based upon plant material water requirements or sun exposure.
- **Clogged nozzle** – uniformity of spray pattern is impaired or prevented due to build-up of debris.
- **Obstructed head** – Spray pattern is interrupted by an object such as vegetation or other physical object.
- **Low pressure** – water pressure at sprinkler head is not adequate to maintain full throw of spray.
- **Low head** – a sprinkler head that has sunk into the ground or does not rise high enough to spray over the vegetation.
- **Poor coverage** – sprinkler spray pattern does not supply water evenly over the entire landscape.
- **Stuck head** – sprinkler head either does not pop-up, rotate, or fails to go down after operation.
- **Tilted head** – sprinkler head is not vertically aligned at ninety degrees from grade.
- **Valve problem** – valve or solenoid is not seating properly allowing water to flow through valve.
- **Mixed sprinkler components** – use of multiple sprinkler technologies (sprays with rotors) in a single irrigation station.
Pipe + Leak = FAIL
Broken/ Missing Nozzles/Emitters = FAIL
High Pressure / Misting

• If misting or fogging is occurring or suspected:
  – Dynamic pressure reading at the head will be required using a spray head gauge or pitot tube
  – The head pressure will be noted on inspection form
  – Head must operate at or below tolerance limits
    • Spray heads < 40 psi
    • MSMT < 50 psi
    • Stream Rotors < 60 psi

Station pass or fail item
High Operating Pressure = FAIL
Reporting

Must be submitted by Customer AND AWU Authorized Inspector

- FacEvalSubmit@AustinTexas.gov (best)
- Fax to 512-974-3504
- Mail to: PO BOX 1088, Austin TX 78767
Properties so far

- 1153 due as of 7/31/2014
  - 549 Passing inspections
  - 455 Does not Apply
  - 101 Systems disabled
  - 48 not compliant

- Fines issued to 159 properties