OSU Facilities Services Takes Action in Water Conservation

Facilities Services Landscape Department has taken the following steps to ensure efficient uses of irrigation water, a precious resource:

1. We have applied landscaping mulch campus wide to shrubs and tree beds to reduce evaporation and conserve moisture already in the soil. This mulch is made on site using waste products from pruning and tree removals.

2. We have recently implemented a computerized irrigation control system that measures weather conditions, (i.e. Temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind speed). These factors are computed and only the amount of actual water lost by the plant is replenished. This saves an enormous amount of water and money, while still supplying the plants with what they need.

3. We have raised the mowing height for turf around campus to reduce the solar radiation striking the soil surface thereby reducing the evaporation and water use.

4. We have selected numerous sites campus wide of peripheral turf areas that will not be watered this summer. This will not only save water but also labor, fuel, and wear and tear on machinery by reducing the need for frequent mowing.

We will continue to water athletic fields at a higher rate for our students’ safety. A few other high profile areas will be watered as well. This will be done to create a pleasing environment for all of the university’s visitors and will help to recruit and retain employees and students. In addition all the campus elm trees will be watered to limit their susceptibility to Dutch Elm disease. If you have any further questions or concerns please call Joe Majeski at 737-7646 or Bill Coslow @ 737-3488

Joe Majeski