



Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Reporting Form

C1	Agency Name:	Ventura County Resource Management Agency - Planning Division
C2	Address:	800 South Victoria Avenue, L# 1740, Ventura, CA 93009
C3	Contact Name:	Kim Prillhart
C4	Title:	Planning Director
C5	Phone Number:	(805) 654-2481
C6	Phone Extention:	
C6	Email:	Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org
1a	Is your agency adopting a single agency ordinance OR a regional agency alliance ordinance?	Single Agency Ordinance ▼
1b	Date of adoption OR anticipated adoption:	Coastal Zoning Ordinance: December 2016 Update to Landscape Design Criteria (1992): TBD
2a	Reporting period:	
2b	December 1, 2015 through December 28, 2015 (all agencies)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
2c	February 1, 2016 through February 28, 2016 (additional reporting period for agencies crafting regional ordinances with other agencies)	<input type="radio"/>
3a	Are you using:	the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo) ▼
3b	For agencies who have adopted a modified WELO	
3c	Is it at least as efficient as MWELo?	▼
3d	URL for your WELO	
3e	List major changes from the State's MWELo	
3f	If specific types of projects are exempt (other than those already specified in MWELo), state what they are and the sections of the ordinance that they are exempt from.	
3g	Have elements from other regulations been incorporated (e.g., tree shading percent coverage requirement, stormwater capture requirements).	Yes ▼



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3h	<p>If yes, describe:</p>	<p>Presently, the Ventura County's <i>Landscape Design Criteria (1992)</i> establishes minimum landscape standards, clarifies the procedures for landscape plan approval, and provides the steps to conduct the required water budget calculations. The <i>Landscape Design Criteria (1992)</i> superseded the <i>Landscape Design Guidelines (1988)</i> and the <i>Guide to Landscape Plans (1982)</i>. The <i>Landscape Design Criteria (1992)</i> has not yet been amended to reflect the 2015 State WELO requirements. The following governing documents that reference the County's landscape design guidelines are scheduled to be amended as follows:</p> <p><u>Ventura County General Plan</u></p> <p>The Ventura County General Plan Water Resources Policy 1.3.2.5 requires landscape plans for discretionary development incorporate water conservation measures as prescribed by the County's <i>Guide to Landscape Plans</i>. The General Plan Update (2020) will include a Water Element that will address water reuse and conservation in light of current conditions, including reference to the appropriate guidelines that set forth the State's WELO.</p> <p><u>Ventura County Municipal Code</u></p> <p>Division 8, Chapter 1, Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance (NCZO): Reference to the <i>Landscape Design Criteria (1992)</i>. The <i>Landscape Design Criteria (1992)</i> is scheduled to be updated to reflect the current 2015 State WELO in 2016.</p> <p>Division 8, Chapter 1.1, Coastal Zoning Ordinance (CZO): Reference to The <i>Landscape Design Guidelines (1988)</i>. Amendments to the CZO incorporating</p>
4	<p>If other agencies are implementing the ordinance, explain their role:</p>	<p>Ventura County Fire Protection District (VCFPD): Plan check landscaping within a required fuel modification zone.</p>
5	<p>Permitted projects subject to the ordinance during the reporting period (*e.g., single family residences, commercial projects, landscape retrofits for which permits were finalized during the reporting period, etc.):</p>	<p>For the reporting period (December 1 through December 28, 2015), no discretionary projects that required an approved landscape plan were installed.</p>
6a	<p>Total landscape area subject to the ordinance over the reporting period:</p>	
6b	<p>Unit of Measure (sq. ft. or acres)</p>	<p>Square Feet ▼</p>
7a	<p>During the reporting period, how many of the following types of projects did your agency issue final permits on:</p>	
7b	<p>new housing starts</p>	<p>None</p>
7c	<p>new commercial projects</p>	<p>None</p>
7d	<p>landscape retrofits</p>	<p>None</p>



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8	Describe the procedure for review of projects subject to the ordinance:	<p>Procedure for Review:</p> <p>A landscape documentation package is submitted to the Planning Division and other required County agencies for review and approval as part of the permit application for the proposed development.</p> <p>Preliminary review by the Planning Division and other required County agencies determines consistency with the State WELO. Following approval of the permit application for the proposed development, a zoning clearance is required to verify that the proposed landscape construction documents are consistent with the approved landscape documentation package.</p>
9a	Describe actions taken to verify compliance:	<p>Prior to certificate of occupancy or other final project sign-off, an onsite inspection is conducted by the County verifying that the landscaping was installed as required by the approved landscape documentation package.</p>
9b	Is a plan check performed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
9c	If so, by what entity?	<p>Ventura County Planning Division. For large required landscape areas, at the discretion of the Planning Director, the Planning Division can send the landscape documentation package to a consulting licensed landscape architect for review to determine consistency with the State WELO, conduct an onsite inspection, and to provide recommendations to any document contained in the landscape documentation package.</p>
10	Describe implementation and enforcement measures:	<p>Implementation: If specified by permit conditions, the County shall conduct inspections once every three years following installation of required landscaping and irrigation.</p> <p>Enforcement: Enforcement activities are in response to confirmed violations and may include implementing compliance agreements, inspections, penalty hearings, forfeitures of sureties, and suspension or revocation of permits.</p>
11	Explain challenges to implementing and enforcing the ordinance:	
12	Describe educational and other needs to properly apply the ordinance:	<p>The Ventura County Planning website provides the following link for areas residents and applicants to refer to: http://www.venturacountygardening.com/</p>
13	Additional Comments:	

Please submit reports, including a copy of your local water efficient landscape ordinance, via email to WELO@water.ca.gov by December 31, 2015. Agencies preparing a regional ordinance must submit an additional report by March 1, 2016. For questions, please call Ms. Julie Saare-Edmonds at (916) 651-9676.