

Hurricane Checklist for Irrigation Systems

PRE-HURRICANE

- Write down the current controller settings with days to water and zone run-times.
- If you have not changed the alkaline (non-rechargeable) battery in over a year, do so.
- Locate your owner's manual. If you cannot find it, you can download it from the manufacturer's website.

POST-HURRICANE

- Check for broken lines and sprinklers around down trees, hedges, shrubs, and fences.
- Check the controller (clock) for power.
- Mechanical timers will have to be reset with the correct time and day.
- For controllers using a non rechargeable (alkaline) battery: if the time and date are correct, the controller should not have to be reset and the battery still has power. If the settings have been lost, you will have to install a new battery. You can still reset the controller as long as there is power. However, if there is a power outage and no serviceable battery, the settings will be lost.
- Many of the digital controllers use a rechargeable battery (nickel hydride). If the time and date are correct, the settings have not been lost. If the time and date are not correct, the controller will have to be reset. The battery will recharge and you should not have to buy a new one.
- If there is a power outage and the battery has lost its charge, most digital controllers will go into the default mode. ***In the default mode the irrigation will run 10 minutes per zone, seven days a week until reset.***
- Once power is restored, you should inspect each zone to ensure the valve(s) are working and check for line leaks or breaks and broken or leaking sprinkler heads.
- Check your rain sensor for damage.
- Do not put storm debris over sprinkler heads.

Collier Soil and Water Conservation District
Mobile Irrigation Lab
(239) 455-4100
cswcdmil@yahoo.com