



IRRIGATION PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESS

Irrigation Permit Application Process

Water Department
114 North L Street
Harlingen, Texas

956-440-6591



HARLINGEN
WATERWORKS
SYSTEM

134 VAN BUREN, HARLINGEN,
TEXAS 956-430-6107

Do I Need an Irrigation Permit?

Yes, Harlingen Waterworks System (HWWS) is required by *Texas State Law, House Bill 1656*, effective September 1, 2007, to regulate the installation of irrigation systems both within the corporate city limits as well as within the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). To comply with this legal mandate, all irrigation systems must be permitted by the Harlingen Waterworks System to insure compliance with all City and State of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) minimum requirements and specifications.

Are there any Exemptions for the Irrigation Permit requirement?

Yes, based on state law, (1) agricultural operations as defined by Texas Administrative Code, Section 251.002 Agriculture Code any systems connected to a groundwater well used by the property owner for domestic use are exempt from this requirement.

Who Can Apply for an Irrigation Permit?

If the owner is installing the irrigation system, then the owner can apply for an irrigation permit. If the installer is not the owner, then the permit must be applied for by a licensed irrigator, licensed plumber, licensed engineer, registered architect or registered landscape architect. It is important that the correct person apply for the permit to insure that the inspection process is completed successfully and to avoid any potential penalties for work being done by unlicensed or unpermitted individual.

Do I need an Irrigator License to Install an Irrigation system?

Yes, based on *Texas State Law, Occupations Code Chapter 1903 – Irrigators*: except for licensed plumbers, licensed engineers, registered architects, registered landscape architects, all other persons must hold a license to sell, design, install, maintain, alter, repair or service an irrigation system. This includes providing consulting services relating to irrigation systems and connections to any private or public, raw or potable

water supply system. There are a few other exemptions that may apply. All applicants are requested to review Chapter 1903.002 for specific details. Anyone who installs an irrigation system without a license, unless exempt under Section 1903, commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00.

How Do I Apply for a Permit?

Irrigation permits may be submitted to the Harlingen Waterworks System at their office located at 114 North L Street, Harlingen, Texas, phone number 956-440-6591.

How Much Does an Irrigation Permit Cost?

The cost of an irrigation permit will vary depending on the size of the irrigation meter required for the system. Contact the Water Department at 956-440-6591 to determine the applicable fee for your system. Note: The cost of the irrigation permit does not include the cost for the installation of the sprinkler meter.

Do I need a formal irrigation plan?

Yes, state law and *TCEQ Chapter 344 – Landscape Irrigation* requirements mandate that a formal irrigation plan be submitted for review and approval by HWWS. The irrigation plans must include the property boundary, public right of ways, easements, building footprint, delineation of all areas to be irrigated, sprinkler meter location and size, identification of backflow device to include brand & model, irrigation flow demand calculations, pipe network, locations of all spray heads, bubblers or drip irrigation components, rain gage/sensor, etc. See TCEQ Chapter 344 for complete list of minimum requirements.

Does my irrigation system come with a warranty?

Yes! Per TCEQ Section 344.72, an irrigator shall present the irrigation system's owner with a written warranty.

Does an Irrigation Permit include a Sprinkler Meter?

No. A sprinkler meter is not included in the Irrigation Permitting process. A

Sprinkler Meter application is a separate process conducted by the HWWS Engineering department located at 134 Van Buren, 2nd floor, Harlingen, Texas. An Irrigation Permit must be issued before an application for a Sprinkler Meter can be submitted. For additional information please contact the engineering department at 956-430-6107.

For Additional Information see:

Harlingen Waterworks System
www.hwws.com

City of Harlingen
<http://www.myharlingen.us/>

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rules, Chapter 344
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/indxpathdf.html#344>

Texas Occupations Code – Chapter 1903 Irrigators
https://texas.public.law/statutes/tex._occ._code_section_1903.053

80th Texas Legislature, House Bill 1656
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth154818/>

Cameron County
www.co.cameron.tx.us