



## MODEL WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE (Exemption Form)

The California Department of Water Resources Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance requires new construction landscaping 500+ square feet and retrofitted existing landscaping 2,500+ square feet to increase water efficiency and improve environmental conditions in the built environment. This requires that the applicant for any single-family or multi-family residential, public, institutional, or commercial project that requires a building permit, plan review, or design review AND meet the size threshold shall comply with the requirements of Benicia Municipal Code 15.25.090 and all required components of the California Green Building Standards Code, 24 CCR, Part 11.

“Recognizing the special landscape management needs of cemeteries, new and rehabilitated cemeteries are limited to Sections 492.4, 492.11, and 492.12; and existing cemeteries are limited to Sections 493, 493.1, and 493.2.” Cal. Code Regs. title 23 § 490.1

**Please complete and indicate exemption reasoning by checking one of the boxes below.**

- Existing landscape area to remain and will not be rehabilitated for this project.
- New construction landscaping area or rehabilitated landscaping area is below threshold size.
- Landscape area is a registered local, state or federal historical site. Please attach supporting documentation.
- Landscape area is an ecological restoration or a mined landed reclamation project that does not require a permanent irrigation system. Please attach supporting documentation.
- Landscape area is an existing plant collection as part of botanical gardens and arboretums open to the public. Please attach supporting documentation.

Landscape area includes but is not limited to: planting areas, turf areas, and water features (pools, spas, ponds, waterfalls, fountains, lakes, artificial streams).

Project Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Design Professional Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Design Professional Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

For non-exempt projects, please visit [MWELO webpage](#) for compliance pathways or visit [CA Department of Water Resources website](#) for more information.