Monday, December 10, 2007
IA07-1047

Weather Based Irrigation at Large Commercial Sites - Portland Water Bureau Pilot Project

Brad M. Galpern, Portland Water Bureau, 1120 SW 5th Ave, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97204
In 2004, the Portland Water Bureau initiated a three-year study to measure the effectiveness of weather-based irrigation controllers. These devices use hourly weather data comprised of various factors to calculate the amount of water lost by plants, known as evapotranspiration, and adjust irrigation schedules accordingly. A service provider broadcasts weather data to the controllers from local weather stations. It was predicted that the technology would save water and promote healthier landscapes. Currently, 12 receivers are operating at 8 sites in Portland. 3 additional sites were originally part of the pilot but were taken offline due to technical difficulties. Sites that are currently online have shown an average decrease in outdoor consumption of 23 percent. The presentation of this project would focus on three key elements: The technology, and its operation; the problems and successes experienced over the life of the project; and the pre and post consumption of study participants.

See more of Turf/Landscape: Climate-based Irrigation Scheduling
See more of The 28th Annual International Irrigation Show (December 9-11, 2007)