

## What is the Florida Irrigation Society?

The Florida Irrigation Society is a non-profit organization whose principal objective is to promote sound irrigation practices.

FIS meets this objective through active use of its Bylaws, some of which are:

Promoting the development, proper design, use and acceptance of irrigation equipment, facilities and systems.

Promoting water and soil conservation through economic use of irrigation practices.

Collecting and disseminating information regarding irrigation to members of the Society, allied industries, organizations, agencies and the public.

Developing for the irrigation industry a code of ethics as well as design and installation standards and specifications for the various types of systems.

Providing, within the Society, a mechanism to encourage compliance with the code of ethics and providing a society seal symbolic of high standards.

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*For more information on finding a Florida Irrigation Society member Irrigation Contractor near you, please call 1-800-441-5341 or visit [www.fisstate.org](http://www.fisstate.org) online.*



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# KNOW YOUR IRRIGATION CONTRACTOR

VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR THE CONSUMER

# The Florida Irrigation Society Works for You



This publication is designed to help you make the best decision about an important purchase - your irrigation system.

One of the Florida Irrigation Society's most important goals is to educate you, the consumer, about what to expect from an irrigation contractor.

The Society achieves this goal by informing you of the basic standard practices in the irrigation industry. Understanding this industry will help you select an irrigation contractor and choose the appropriate options for your system.

In general, a proper irrigation system should be suited to your specific needs and relatively easy to operate and maintain.

The Society expects any system installed by one of our member contractors to provide you with years of satisfaction.

## Evaluate the qualifications of your irrigation system contractor

### Consumer Checklist

*To ensure that you are about to hire a reputable irrigation contractor capable of installing a quality system, the Society recommends asking the following questions:*

1. Are you a member of the Florida Irrigation Society?
2. How long have you been in business?
3. Do you have a business telephone and address?
4. Do you have an irrigation service vehicle with your company name on the side?
5. Will you provide me with a copy of your certificate of insurance?
6. Do you have a license to do this work? May I see this license before you begin the work?
7. Will you provide a list of references whom I may contact about your work?
8. Do you offer a warranty on parts and labor for the entire system, including warranty coverage of any dry spots that may appear?
9. Will you guarantee that overspray will be left to a minimum?
10. Are you going to zone the sprays and rotors separately to prevent over watering?

11. Will you install a backflow prevention device?

12. Do you provide me with an "as-installed schematic" of my irrigation system that I may retain?

13. Following completion of the installation, will you instruct me in the operation of my system both in the automatic and manual modes?

14. Will you demonstrate to me that each part of my irrigation system is completely operational before payment is received?

### Terms to Know

**As-Installed Schematics** are maps of your irrigation system, to assist you in preventing inadvertent damage through mowing, digging and other home-improvement activities.

**Backflow** happens when contaminated water is drawn back into the water source.

**Backflow prevention** keeps contamination from entering drinking water.

**Overspray** occurs when water being applied to a landscape area also results in water being applied to streets, driveways, sidewalks, the sides of buildings, etc.

**Zones** are the areas controlled by each irrigation valve. The size and location of each zone is based on available water supply, type of sprinkler being used and type of vegetation being irrigated. Sprays and rotors should not be used in the same zone. Turf and plants should not be in the same zone.