BaseStation 3200 Irrigation Controller
Pausing Irrigation to Allow a Pond or Cistern to Refill

If your irrigation system is drawing water from a pond or a cistern while that reservoir is being filled from another water source, you might find that water is being used faster than it is being replenished. If you cannot increase the flow rate for the fill or decrease the usage rate, you might need to pause your irrigation programs while the reservoir refills to an acceptable level.

In the document Keeping a Pond or Cistern Full, we’ve described how to use a Baseline biSensor soil moisture sensor to maintain the water level in a reservoir. If you combine the procedure in that document with the procedure in this document, you can configure one soil moisture sensor to monitor both the fill level and the pause level.

Perform the following steps to use a biSensor and a pause condition to pause watering when water drops below a specified level in a reservoir:

Step 1 – Perform the steps in the document Keeping a Pond or Cistern Full. When you install the biSensor in the reservoir, make sure that the sensor blade will be able to detect the refill water level and the pause water level.

Step 2 – Take a biSensor reading at the pause level.

Step 3 – Program the controller to pause the irrigation programs at a specific moisture reading

**Step 1 – Installing the biSensor in the Reservoir**

Refer to the steps in the document Keeping a Pond or Cistern Full.

Take note of the serial number of the biSensor that you are installing in the reservoir. You will need this number when you program the controller.

Assign one zone to the fill program. Configure the start condition for the upper sensor reading.

**Note:** The numbers in the illustration are given as an example. Be sure to test the sensor when the water is at the appropriate levels in order to get accurate readings for your situation.
Step 2 – Taking a biSensor Reading

1. Make sure the water in the reservoir is at the level where you want the system to pause the irrigation program(s).

2. On the BaseStation 3200 controller, turn the dial to the **Self Test** position.

3. Press the **Next** or **Previous** button to select **Test Single Two-wire Device**, and then press the **Enter** button.

4. In the **Device to Test** column, press the + or – button to select the serial number of the biSensor that you installed in the reservoir.

5. Press the **Enter** button to test the biSensor. The test results display the moisture percentage.

6. Write down the moisture reading, and then turn the dial to the **RUN** position.

Step 3 – Configuring the Pause Condition

You can pause specific programs when the water level reaches the low reading on the soil moisture sensor.

1. On the BaseStation 3200 controller, turn the dial to the **Start, Stop, Pause** position.

2. Press the **Next** or **Previous** button to highlight the **Moisture Control Setup** option.

3. Press the **Enter** button. The Moisture Sensors screen displays.

4. In the **Program** column, press the + button to highlight the irrigation program that you want to pause.

5. Press the **Next** button to move to the **Moisture Sensors** column. Press the + button to highlight the serial number of the biSensor that you installed in the reservoir.

6. Press the **Next** button to move past the **Start** and **Stop** fields. Make sure the values in these fields are set to **Off**.

7. Press the **Next** button to move to the **Enable** column of the **Pause** field. Press the + button to set the value to **Below**.

8. Press the **Next** button to move to the **Value** column of the **Pause** field. Press the + button to enter the biSensor reading that you wrote down from the test.

9. Press the **Next** button to move to the **Pause Time** field. Press the + button to enter the amount of time that you want the program to pause while the reservoir is filling.

10. Repeat steps 4 – 9 to assign the pause condition to all of the irrigation programs that draw water from the reservoir.

11. When you have finished making changes, turn the dial to the **RUN** position.