



Watering Guide

The following instructions provide general guidelines for maintaining and improving plant and lawn health, longevity and appearance. Properly watering all new plant material and transplanted material is the most important aspect to ensure survival. Applying too little or too much water will void your plant warranty, please follow instructions below carefully.

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1. Trees, Shrubs, Perennials, Annuals

- **First 2 Weeks:**
Water plants daily. Water enough to lightly soak the root ball.
- **Second 2 Weeks:**
Water plant material every other day. Water enough to lightly soak the root ball.
- **After 4 Weeks:**
Tip: Plants need water to soak the root ball 1-2 times per week. If rainfall (mother nature) provides sufficient water, you can forgo watering that cycle. Remember, light rainfall may not be enough water to penetrate the mulch/soil to lightly soak the root ball. It's important to monitor new plants during the first year. Plants will need supplemental watering during hot and dry conditions.

2. Sod

- **First 2 Weeks:**
Water sod daily. Set your sprinkler time based on when the water penetrates through the sod soil into the native soil.
- **Second 2 Weeks:**
Water plant material every other day. Set your sprinkler time based on when the water penetrates the soil on the under side.
- **After 4 Weeks:**
Tip: Lawns need enough water to penetrate the soil 1-2 times per week. An ideal amount of rainfall would be 1" per week (split into 2 waterings of ½"). Remember, light rainfall may not be enough water to penetrate the lawns soil and lightly soak the roots. It's important to monitor your lawn during the first year, as sod will need supplemental watering during hot and dry conditions. If you water your lawn more than 2 times per week you are increasing the chance for disease and fungus problems. Disease problems increase with high moisture, heat and humidity.

3. Seed

- **First 2 Weeks:**
Water seed daily. Set your sprinkler time based on when the water penetrates the soil.
- **Second 2 Weeks:**
Water seed every other day. Set your sprinkler time based on when the water penetrates the soil.
- **After 4 Weeks:**
Tip: Lawns need enough water to penetrate the soil 1-2 times per week. An ideal amount of rainfall would be 1" per week (split into 2 waterings of ½"). Remember, light rainfall will not be enough water to penetrate the lawns soil and lightly soak the roots. It's important to monitor your lawn during the first year, as lawns will need supplemental watering during hot and dry conditions. If you water your lawn more than 2 times per week you are increasing the chance for disease and fungus problems. Disease problems increase with high moisture, heat and humidity.

4. Pruning Plants

- Proper pruning is very important to the health longevity and appearance of plant material.
- Prune most shrubs at least 2 times per year. Hand pruning is done with pruning shears and gives the plants a more natural look. (This technique is usually more time consuming.) "Shearing" is a pruning technique that gives the shrubs a neat the uniform appearance and is done with a machine.
- Prune back perennials in the late winter before new growth appears.

Tip: Remember, the timing of pruning is critical. Prune flowering shrubs after blooming to prevent removing buds for new blooms.

5. Fertilizing Plants

Fertilizing plants promotes vigorous root growth, healthier foliage and more abundant blooms. Evergreens, flowering shrubs and ornamental plants should be fertilized 2 times per year.

Tip: Use a time released, granular fertilizer for best results.

6. Mulching Plants

Clean, treated, double shredded hardwood mulch is recommended.

- Apply mulch to all landscaped beds and trees at least 1 time per year. Only 3" of mulch is required in all landscaped areas. Mulch should be installed less around the base of plants and trees. (Never apply or have more than 3" of mulch in any landscaped area)
- Mulch provides moisture retention for plants to thrive and slows water evaporation.
- Mulching beds reduces weed growth. Weeds can be detrimental to plant health because they compete for water, nutrients and ground space to expand.
- Mulch adds aesthetic beauty and health to your landscape.

Tip: Apply a bed pre-emergent product under the mulch prior to new mulch installation each year to reduce weed growth. Pull weeds as they emerge to prevent further pollinating of additional weeds.

7. Mowing Sod

- Sod can be mowed 7-14 days after installation or when the blade of grass reaches 4" (depending on the season and growth rates.)
- Set the mower height at 3" or above and make sure blade is sharp.
- Eliminate traffic on new sod until the sod becomes established after a few mowing's.

8. Mowing a Seeded area

- Begin mowing the seeded areas when the blades of grass reach 4". Be sure your mower blade is sharp. Avoid traffic on the lawn until the seeds become established and the lawn is mature.
- It usually takes 2 full growing seasons for a lawn to become fully established and exhibit the desirable characteristics for the individual turf species and be able to tolerate drought, wear tolerance, density and competition against weeds. Following a sound maintenance program will ensure your lawn will thrive and mature into a healthy lawn.