



Watering guidelines for newly installed trees, shrubs, and plants.

-Newly installed plants DO NOT need to be watered daily. Too much water can kill them as easily as not enough!

-While rainfall does help the watering do not rely on that alone to keep your new plants properly watered

-Ideally a properly installed irrigation system is the easiest, but at the same time the irrigation system for your turf will not properly water your plants. A **properly installed irrigation system** installed in the landscape beds is needed.

-Proper watering will depend on many factors, such as soil type/structure, sun exposure, radiant heating from concrete and homes, and even the type of plant.

-If you are unsure if your plants are getting the proper amount of moisture, dig down around the edge of the root ball about 3-5" and if the soil is dry and crumbly it needs watered. If the soil is saturated and dripping when you squeeze that's too much water.

-For smaller plants and shrubs, a handheld watering wand with a shut off valve is best. This should have a displacer at the end like a shower head. This will help avoid soil/mulch erosion and provide an abundant yet gentle water flow to the plants.

-Water every 3-5 days depending on temperature and time of the year. If in doubt, please refer back to checking soil moisture around the root ball. Set the shut of valve on the wand to about halfway and saturate each plant around the entire root zone until you can see the water "running off". Once you have completed this once on all plants repeat this process. This will allow more water soak further down into the root zone.

-Use the wand only for the container plants that were installed in your yard. This should not be used for larger trees as it will take too long to achieve the proper amount of water.

-For trees utilize your garden hose with no attachment on the end. You will want to set the stream to be about the size of your little finger. Place the hose near the trunk (about 4-6" away) and let the water run for about 20 minutes. This will saturate about 1/3 of the root ball. Then move the hose to another 1/3 of the root ball and repeat for another 20 minutes. Repeat the same process for the final section of the root ball.

-Another alternative for trees is obtaining a watering bag (Gator watering bag). Even though this is an effective way for a slow release form of watering you must ensure the bag stays filled!!!

-You should repeat this process every 3-5 days as well depending on the time of the year and temperatures.

-Avoid watering during the heat of the day as it can and will burn the foliage on plants.



WATERING GUIDELINES FOR NEW LAWNS/SOD INSTALLATION

-A properly installed irrigation system is ideal for setting up a watering schedule for your new lawn. However, there are other ways to properly water your lawn.

-Keep in mind, a yard with an irrigation system will always thrive better with proper watering schedule and all zones being addressed with less stress to you!

-Most importantly you must make certain that all areas of the new lawn are getting watered.

-Newly installed lawns/turf areas should be watered thoroughly 2 times a day, every day, with a sprinkler. Handheld wands and nozzles are ineffective as they do not infiltrate the soil deep enough to build a strong root system for the turf.

-An oscillating sprinkler can cover a large area of your yard and will supply an even amount of water for the area, but there may be smaller areas that need attention as well.

-The first watering cycle of the day should be in the morning, around sunrise. Water each area for about 20 minutes. This will allow the soil to become saturated and allow for proper germination of the seed.

-Avoid watering during the heat of the day (full sunshine) as the water droplets will burn the grass.

-The second watering cycle should be around 4-5 p.m. Again, water each area for about 20 minutes. Ideally you do not want water later in the evening, because if the water sits overnight without being soaked in or evaporated, there is a chance for fungi to develop.

-Depending on time of year and temperature and even soil conditions, your new turf may require a 3rd cycle of watering. If you see areas of your yard developing cracks in the soil the areas are not getting enough water and you should either increase the time of watering or add another cycle.

-We highly recommend a 5-6 step fertilizer program to keep your yard healthy and green as watering does help but nutrients will be needed to build a strong lawn. This will also help with weed control.

As always, we are here for any questions you may have, so please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns.