



# REFERENCE:

## Landscape Watering

Keep your landscape healthy with efficient watering.

- **Deep, infrequent watering** is best for established plants and lawn. The goal is to saturate the top 6 inches of the soil.
- **Once per week** during most of the year is an adequate watering frequency.
- **Think inches not minutes:** 1 inch-1.5 inches per week is all most landscapes need.
- **Early morning**, between 5am & 10am is the best time to water your landscape.
- In the hottest parts of the summer you may need to water 2 times per week, but be sure to follow your local watering restrictions. *See City of Dallas guidelines on the reverse.*
- **Gator Bags** are great for new trees!
- **2"-3" of mulch** on new and established plantings will help retain moisture in the soil.
- **Soaker hoses** water slowly and deeply. Run for 6-8 hours, once a week on established plants. Add a timer for ease of use.
- Plants in hanging baskets and other containers can dry out quicker. Use **NHG Premium Organic Potting Soil**, or add **Coco Coir Fiber** to other potting soils, topping off with **mulch** to help retain moisture.

**IMPORTANT!** *Even if you have a sprinkler system, you need to provide supplemental hand-watering on all new plantings until plants are established. See our First Year Care Guide.*

### How MUCH do I water?

Follow these simple steps to water your landscape more accurately.

1. Set out 5-6 open-top cans randomly on the lawn (tuna cans work best because they have short sides).
2. Turn the sprinkler head or system on for 30 minutes.
3. Measure and record the depth of water caught in each individual can.
4. Calculate the average depth of water from all of the cans in 30 minutes. (Add each amount together then divide by the number of cans.)
5. Use a garden spade to determine how deep the soil was wet during the 30-minute watering. Measure the depth of the wet soil.
6. When you know how much water was applied in a 30-minute cycle and how deep that volume of water wet the soil, it is easy to determine how long the sprinkler head must run to adequately wet the soil to a depth of 6 inches.

**Example:** The system put out ½ inch of water in 30 minutes wetting the soil to a depth of 3 inches. Therefore, 1 inch of water will need to be applied to wet the soil to a depth of 6 inches giving a run time of 1 hour. **3" wet soil** = ½" of water = 30 minutes; therefore **6" wet soil** = 1" of water = 1 hour. If you find you're getting run-off before you saturate to 6-inches, you can split the cycle up into two sessions with a break in-between.

***See city of Dallas watering guidelines on the reverse.***



**The City of Dallas considers landscape watering a non-essential use, and on average accounts for about 30% of all total city water.** Properly watering your lawn and garden will not only save you money on your water bill, it will also help conserve a precious resource. City ordinances vary. The City of Dallas outlines the mandatory guidelines below.

**DALLAS MANDATORY WATERING GUIDELINES**

It is a violation of the City Code to water a lawn or landscape in a manner that wastes water or causes runoff, including causing water to fall on sidewalks, driveways, or other areas not lawns or landscapes. You must maintain your irrigation system to prevent such waste by repairing broken, missing, or misdirected sprinkler heads. Watering is prohibited during any type of precipitation, and rain and freeze sensors are **required** on all automatic systems.

Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems is limited to no more than twice per week according to the MANDATORY schedule. No watering is allowed on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays, and **from April 1-October 31, watering is prohibited between 10 am and 6 pm** on the allowed watering days. Violations of these outdoor watering guidelines can result in fines of \$250 to \$2,000 per incident.

**How CAN I water?**

Water your landscape responsibly according to the schedule below. Drip irrigation, soaker hoses and hand watering are allowed on any day, and at any time. The City of Dallas makes no mention of restrictions using rain water, grey water, rain barrels, or Gator Bags. You can apply recycled water at any time.

<b>STAGE 1 WATERING SCHEDULE - Dallas Drought Contingency Plan</b>	
<b>Last Digit of Address</b>	<b>Watering Days Allowed</b>
<b>0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 (even numbers)</b>	<b>Sundays and Thursdays</b>
<b>1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 (odd numbers)</b>	<b>Saturdays and Wednesdays</b>
<b>No address number</b>	<b>Sundays and Thursdays</b>

*Apartments, office building complexes, or other property containing multiple addresses must be identified by the lowest address number.*

**For more water conservation information, call 214-670-3155 or visit [www.savedallaswater.com](http://www.savedallaswater.com).**