



Watering and Drought Procautions Spring 2026

Check All Plants Weekly

Check newly planted trees and shrubs every few days for the first two weeks. Annuals and Perennials daily, thereafter, every week to 10 days. Simply dig around the root zone with your fingers to a depth of 2-3" for small plants and 6-8" for larger ones and trees. Water generously when the soil feels dry to the touch.

SLOW, Deep Watering

This type of watering is accomplished by placing the hose at the base of a plant, at a heavy trickle, and water 5-10 minutes for small plants, longer for larger plants, while moving the hose in a few locations around the plant.

When the Soil Feels Moist, Do NOT Water

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Monitoring Water Requirements Frequently is More Important than Watering Frequently.

Monitor your plants' water requirements for at least the first two to three years. Plants close to buildings where heat may reflect and plants under roof eaves require closer monitoring. During the hot summer months and early fall, disregard natural rainfall. Often, rain received during these periods produces mostly runoff and contributes little, if any, to increasing ground moisture.



Maintain a 2-2.5” Mulch Layer

Conserve ground moisture, prevent weeds, and retain moisture. Remember, excess amounts of mulch will result in poor air circulation and reduce plant vigor.

Quick Reference Chart

Plant Type	Quick Reference Chart
Small Shrub (4ft or shorter)	One minute, or 5 gallons
Large Shrub	1 min for first 4ft + 15 seconds per foot over 4ft
Trees	2 gallons per inch of trunk diameter (measure 4.5ft above ground level)
Flowers	5 gallons of water per ten square feet, or one minute at medium
Bermuda Grass	½ inch per week *
Fescue and Zoysia Grass	1 inch per week *

*To determine one inch of water, place a shallow pan in the path of your lawn sprinkler. Monitor the time that it takes to fill the pan to a one inch depth. Use this as a guide for each sprinkler in your yard. If water begins to run off before one inch is collected, turn off the water and allow the soil to absorb the surface water before returning to finish the one inch accumulation.