



## Watering Instructions for Lawn Conversion Projects

### Drip Irrigation

Your drip irrigation system flows at 0.6 gal per hour. One of the following is recommended:

- a. For the equivalent of ½ inch of rain, run for 30 mins (two times a week)
- b. For the equivalent of 1 inch of rain, run for 1 hour (once a week)

Your irrigation timer has now been programmed to run \_\_\_\_\_time(s) per week on \_\_\_\_\_ (days), for \_\_\_\_ (mins).

### Hand Watering

If you hand water, slowly water with a nozzle on a soft spray setting for 10 seconds per plant, once a week. Water around each plant in a circular motion to promote root growth. Water near the base of each plant and try to avoid wetting their leaves. After two years, you may taper back to once a month. Water more frequently to make plants look better.

### General Watering Tips

1. **After installation, lightly water the area by hand for 60 days to prevent the plants from going into transplant shock.**
2. Water plants between 5am-9am to maximize water absorption and reduce water loss from evaporation.
3. Giving plants a deep watering a few times a week is better than just watering them for short periods of time every day.
4. Establishing trees require about 15 gal per week; shrubs require 0.5 gal per week.
5. Deep water for 10 minutes from a hose on a slow trickle if you have a new tree in your landscape. Established trees will get enough water from the landscape.
6. Adjust watering schedule for each season: Summer 2-3 times per week; Spring & Fall 1-2 times a week; Winter typically requires no water because it is the rainy season.
7. Avoid watering on days with temperatures dropping below freezing. Too much moisture in the soil can cause the roots to freeze and kill the plant.
8. Avoid watering on days with temperatures rising above 100 °F. Watering on days where the temperature is too high will create conditions for root rot and the plants are likely to die. When conditions are this hot, it is better to water for longer periods less frequently (twice a month).  
**\*It is important that roots have a chance to dry out between waterings to avoid root rot and root freeze.**
9. After two years, you can reduce watering to every other month because the plants will be established and ready to be drought-tolerant. Once established, native plants require little water beyond normal rainfall, so taper plants off watering after the first two years until little to no water besides rain is needed to support them.