



WATERING GUIDELINES

Now that you have your new landscape, there are a few things you must do to assure that it succeeds. Regular watering is crucial for new plants, although overwatering can be fatal. Plants cannot pull water from the soil for several weeks after planting, so you must be sure the root-ball is kept moist, but not saturated.



WATERING BASICS

Watering is most crucial during hot and dry summer months. **During these hot & dry spells, plants may require more water than usual.** It is best to water late in the evening or early in the morning as this will ensure that the maximum amount of water is available to the plants. If you water during the hottest time of day, more water will evaporate than what soaks in the soil for the plant to use.

Different plants have varying water needs, so **always be sure to check the soil around each plant before watering.** If the soil is wet and cool, the plant may not require watering. Water slowly and direct water at the soil around the base of the plant. Avoid spraying water on the foliage as this may burn the leaves and leave water spots.

PERENNIAL WATERING

Perennials: herbaceous plants that die back in the fall and come back in the spring; this includes grasses and all other plants that do not have a woody (shrub like) stem.

- Water about 2 times per week for the first month to help the plant get established
- After the first month, water about once a week (or more if it's very hot and dry)
- Check plants every day to assure you're giving the plants necessary watering
- If the leaves look like they're starting to droop and the soil is dry, water
- If the leaves look like they're starting to droop, but the soil is wet, refrain from watering

SHRUB WATERING

Shrub: a woody plant that has multiple stems arising from its base - does not typically die back to the ground

- Water 1-2 times per week for the first month
- After the first month, water about once a week (or more if it's very hot and dry)
- Check plants every day to assure you're giving the plants necessary watering
- Position hose at the base of the shrub and water thoroughly for about 1 minute
- Evergreen shrubs require less frequent waterings. Let soil around them dry a little more than other shrubs in between waterings

TREE WATERING

- In most cases, trees die because they are overwatered. Check the soil before you water to ensure that the soil is not saturated
- Give newly planted trees about 5 gallons of water per week for the first month, then as needed depending on the weather after that
- Probe the soil to the depth of about 12-18". If wet soil adheres and does not crumble when rolled between your fingers, do not water. If no soil adheres and crumbles between your fingers, watering is necessary.
- Place hose at the base of the tree and water slowly for about 2-3 minutes (to ensure a thorough watering)
 - Further watering may not be necessary for 10-14 days (depending on the weather)
- Water until the ground is frozen (usually late November).
- Evergreen trees require less frequent waterings. Let soil around them dry a little more than other trees in between waterings.