

WATERING INSTRUCTIONS

Please use these instructions! Improper watering may negate your plant guarantee. Water is most important for establishing new plants, so to be sure to supply that which is needed. Remember that you cannot blame the supplier or planter of the plant if it dies due to lack of water or too much water. Once it is in your yard, you become responsible for seeing that adequate moisture is supplied. Mulches will help conserve the moisture that is present in the soil and can keep down the competition from weeds for the same water and nutrients.

WATER - THE AMOUNT TO APPLY FOR PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE: Always check the moisture condition of your soil by using a small hand shovel. The soil around plant's roots must be moist (being able to squeeze soil in your hand and make a ball) - not powder dry nor swampy wet; the amount of water to apply at a time and the frequency of application in order to provide this moist soil varies with the size of plants, roots, type of soil, amount and frequency of rainfall, and air and soil temperature.

The following guidelines are for the application of water for plants in the landscape for somewhat “average” conditions.

FREQUENCY OF WATER APPLICATION:

Apply water immediately after planting and then once per week unless there is at least 1/2 inch of rainfall during that week (check the newspaper/Internet for the amount of daily rainfall). If natural rainfall is not sufficient regular watering is necessary!

QUANTITY OF WATER TO APPLY EACH TIME:

For groundcover, perennials and annuals - operate the sprinkler on each area for at least 15 minutes. Remember smaller plants dry out faster than larger.

For bareroot plants and those transplanted from gallon-size containers - operate the sprinkler at each location for at least 30 minutes.

For plants transplanted from larger size containers - operate the sprinkler for at least 60 minutes at each location.

For small shrubs use a hose at a slow trickle (1/8 to 1/4 pressure) for 10-20 minutes per shrub to thoroughly saturate the rootball. A higher pressure of water can be used to speed up the watering as long as you are careful not to break apart the rootball with the water. You want to keep the water at the base of the plants not to wash away the soil at the base.

For trees use a hose at slow trickle (1/8 to 1/4 pressure) for 15-30 minutes to thoroughly saturate the rootball. If we planted the tree there will be a saucer around the tree formed by soil and/or mulch to hold in the water. Do not overflow this saucer.

NEW SOD

1st week: soak daily in summer 30-60 minutes.

2nd week: water every other day and cut the time by 1/3 (20-40 minutes)

3rd week: sod should begin to root into soil. Begin normal sprinkling of total area for 15 minutes every other day.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

It is recommended that every lawn should be core aerated at least once yearly. May and September are the best two times to have this done. The aeration improves the nutrient takeup, thickness and root development of the grass plant.

Water is most important for establishing new plants, so to be sure to supply that which is needed. Remember that you cannot blame the supplier or planter of the plant if it dies due to lack of water or too much water. Once it is in your yard, you become responsible for seeing that adequate moisture is supplied. Mulches will help conserve the moisture that is present in the soil and can keep down the competition from weeds for the same water and nutrients.