



SAMPLE WATERING GUIDE



LAWN WATERING			
Biweekly Period	Approximate Lawn Water Needs (ET) (Inches per Week)⁽¹⁾	Total Watering Time Per Week for Standard Spray Heads⁽²⁾	Total Watering Time Per Week for Rotary Heads⁽²⁾
May 1-15	0.94	38 Minutes	90 Minutes
May 16-31	1.21	48 Minutes	116 Minutes
June 1-15	1.39	56 Minutes	134 Minutes
June 16-30	1.60	64 Minutes	154 Minutes
July 1-15	1.71	68 Minutes	164 Minutes
July 16-31	1.70	68 Minutes	164 Minutes
Aug 1-15	1.49	60 Minutes	144 Minutes
Aug 16-31	1.33	54 Minutes	128 Minutes
Sep 1-15	1.08	44 Minutes	104 Minutes
Sep 16-30	0.85	34 Minutes	82 Minutes

(1) Plant water need is often described as inches of water needed per week. **Evapotranspiration (ET)** is the sum of evaporation from the soil and water being used and transpired by the plants.

(2) These run times are based on an average application rate of 1.5 inches per hour for standard spray heads, and 0.625 inches per hour for rotating sprinklers.

Example water requirement calculation:

Weekly irrigation = 1.70 in. (ET) / 1.5 in/hr (application rate of sprays) x 60 = 68 minutes per week

SHRUB AND TREE WATERING: The watering times above apply only to lawns. Most shrubs and trees prefer deeper, less frequent watering. The following is a recommendation for determining other vegetation water needs:

- **Vegetables:** 75-100% of lawn (ET)
- **Shrubs & Perennials:** 50-60% of lawn (ET)
- **Waterwise plants:** 30-40% of lawn (ET)
- **Trees:** Newly planted trees need regular water for the first couple of years, while established trees may need only a deep soak once or twice in summer.

Drip irrigation is often a more efficient method of watering your shrubs and trees. However, a sample schedule is not included here as individual properties will have various types and number of emitters that apply water at different rates. All watering times listed are based on the use of fixed sprays or rotary heads. As a rule of thumb, drip irrigation applies water more slowly so should be run longer than other sprinklers.

You should utilize any City of Ashland recommended schedules as a starting point only.

While this proposed schedule is based on long-term weather conditions, actual weather will vary somewhat from averages. Also, water needs vary from site to site according to such factors as vegetation, soil characteristics, slope, and how much sun an area receives. When making adjustments to your schedule, it is best to make modifications a little at a time, and evaluate results before making further adjustments.

Need ideas for your landscape? Visit the Water-Wise Landscaping Website:

www.ashland.or.us/waterwise

