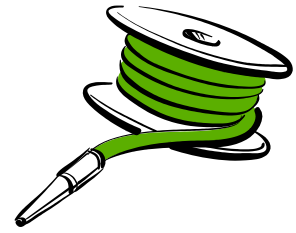


Q&A: Watering Your Lawn and Garden during the Summer

How much, how frequently, and when should I water the lawn?

During hot, dry weather, water your lawn one inch or more per week. Morning watering is best. Avoid watering during the heat of the day, when water could evaporate, or in the evening, which can lead to fungal growth.



How much is an inch?

Place a small, empty tuna-fish can near the sprinkler head. When it's full (approx. 30 minutes), you've applied an inch of water! When you move the sprinkler, be sure the water overlaps the previously watered area by at least one-third.

How do I know if I've watered the lawn enough?

You should water the lawn when the soil begins to dry out but before the grass wilts. One way to tell your lawn needs water is to step on the grass. If your footprints make a lasting impression, it's time to water it.

How often should I water my newly installed plants?

Water your new plants about every other day after they are installed. If you aren't sure whether they need water, check the soil around your new plants by gently digging your fingers around the root zone to a depth of about an inch for small plants, or 2 to 3 inches for larger ones. If the soil feels dry to the touch, you need to water the plants. If the soil is moist, wait until the next day and check again.

Where should I direct the water?

Slow, deep watering is preferred. Place the hose at the base of the plant, at a heavy trickle, and water each plant for about 3 to 5 minutes for small plants – longer for larger plants – while moving the hose in a few locations around the plant. Avoid sprinkling water over an entire area, as the water will evaporate before it reaches the plant's roots. Also avoid sprinkling water on the plant's leaves during the heat of the day, as the water heats up and can cause damage.

What about my established plants?

During the warmer months, check all of your plants at least weekly and follow the same guidelines as for new plantings: slow, deep watering, for 3 to 5 or more minutes per individual plant, depending on its size.

How can I maintain my landscape's health over time?

Maintaining a 2-inch layer of mulch will conserve ground moisture, prevent weeds, and retain moisture. Applying fertilizer regularly to maintain the essential minerals plants need to grow properly.



HD's Landscaping offers a lawn and plant care program that takes the guesswork out of landscape maintenance and keeps everything healthy and looking its best. Call today to learn about our services.

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