


WATERING GUIDE





Trees

Watering new trees properly is vital for the tree's roots to take hold and establish a strong placement. The goal is to slowly soak the entire root zone of the tree as you water. We recommend the following watering process for your newly planted tree:

1  Set the hose out at the drip line (about 2 feet from the trunk).

2  When turning the hose on, set the stream to about the diameter of a pencil. Having the correct flow rate is vital to a properly watered tree.

3  Water for 5-7 minutes and move in a clockwise motion to the next quadrant.


4  Continue moving in a clockwise motion, moving the hose to the next quadrant every 5-7 minutes until you have watered all around the tree.


You should water the tree once a week, depending on rainfall amounts. This schedule should continue for the first season after planting. It is also recommended to water in this manner during the second growing season, especially during periods of high wind or drought.


Shrubs


Watering shrubs is very similar to tree watering. The goal is to water at the base and soak the root zone. We recommend the following watering process for your shrubs:

TIME METHOD


1  Set the hose out at the drip line.


2  When turning the hose on, set the stream to about the diameter of a pencil. Having the correct flow rate is vital to a properly watered tree.


2  Water for 2-3 minutes and move in a clockwise motion to the next quadrant.

3  Continue moving in a clockwise motion, moving the hose to the next quadrant every 2-3 minutes until you have watered all around the shrub.

GALLON PER MINUTE METHOD

1  Set the hose out at the drip line.

2  Use one gallon of water per gallon of shrub for watering. For example, if you have a three gallon shrub, you will want to use three gallons of water when watering. Your shrub gallon size can be found on the container tag at time of purchase.

3  Spread the water around the perimeter of the shrub when watering to adequately surround the root zone with moisture

New shrubs require watering approximately one to two times per week during the first growing season. Moisture loving shrubs (hydrangea, red-twig dogwood, inkberry), especially, require watering three times per week. Test the soil moisture if you are unsure. It is imperative to keep the root mass moist, but not too wet. You want the shrub roots to dry out between waterings.

Perennials & Annuals

Water plays a critical role in establishing strong roots for sustained growth of your new plants. The most important period for watering takes place in the first few weeks after planting. We recommend a watering schedule as follows:

AT PLANTING



As soon as you have your plants in the soil, water them until the soil is thoroughly moistened, allowing the water to soak in. If plants are installed by a Wright Outdoor Solutions landscape crew, this initial watering will be done by the crew.

WEEK

1



For the first week, you should plan to water daily with a slow steady trickle. If more than an inch of rain falls, you can skip watering on that day.

WEEK

2



You can start watering every other day with a slow steady trickle. Most perennials and annuals begin root establishment within two to three weeks after planting.

WEEK

3



You can continue to water less frequently by the third week unless weather conditions are very hot, dry or windy, in which case you will need to water more often. If weather conditions are average, continue with a slow steady trickle of water every two to three days. The soil should be dry about an inch or two below the surface before watering, as too much water can cause root issues.

FOLLOWING MONTHS



Water as needed after the first few weeks. If the plant shows signs of being dry (pale, wilted flowers and or foliage) or the soil has dried out in the first inch or two below the surface, watering will be necessary.

KEY TIPS



MORNING WATERING

Water in the morning so the soil can retain the most moisture before evaporation sets in with the heat of the day.



CHECK SOIL MOISTURE

Check with a Wright Outdoor Solutions team member for a moisture meter. This low cost tool is a great way to keep track of your soil's moisture levels, indicating when additional water is needed.



BASE WATER

Roots require water; not the branches or foliage. When watering, make sure to focus on the base of the plant. Failure to do so can lead to disease and insect issues. If you have an irrigation system, it is important to adjust irrigation heads to avoid hitting your new plants on the branches or foliage.

Failure to properly water new plant material will void the warranty that has been established.

QUESTIONS? We love to talk all things outdoors! Give us a call at 515.987.0800 to chat with one of our team members. Wright Outdoor Solutions also does personal gardening and seasonal color displays – leave the garden to the experts this season!

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