



Irrigation Basics

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Overview

- **Why we need to water**
- **What are we trying to water.**
- **Where will we get the water**
- **Best ways to water**
- **Fix major issues**

Yes We Live in a Desert



What are you Watering



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What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



What are you Watering



Where are you getting your Water

- **City**
- **Well**
- **Rain Water Collection**
- **Mother Nature**

What are you Watering

- **Lawn**
- **Flower Beds**
- **Trees**
- **Water Features**
- **Vegetable Gardens**

How to Water your Lawn

How MUCH to Water your Lawn

- **Type of Grass**
- **Weather**
- **Sun / Shade**
- **Usually 1" per week is good**

How MUCH to Water your Lawn

- Typical lot = 65' x 125', 0.20 acres or 8,100 ft²
 - 1,600 ft² house,
 - 500 ft garage,
 - 20'x30' drive,
 - 400 ft² of other non-landscape area
- 5,000 ft² of landscape to water
- Usually 1" per week
- 12,000 gallons of water per month

How to Water your Lawn

- **Sprinkler**
 - Pop up
 - Manual
 - Rotary

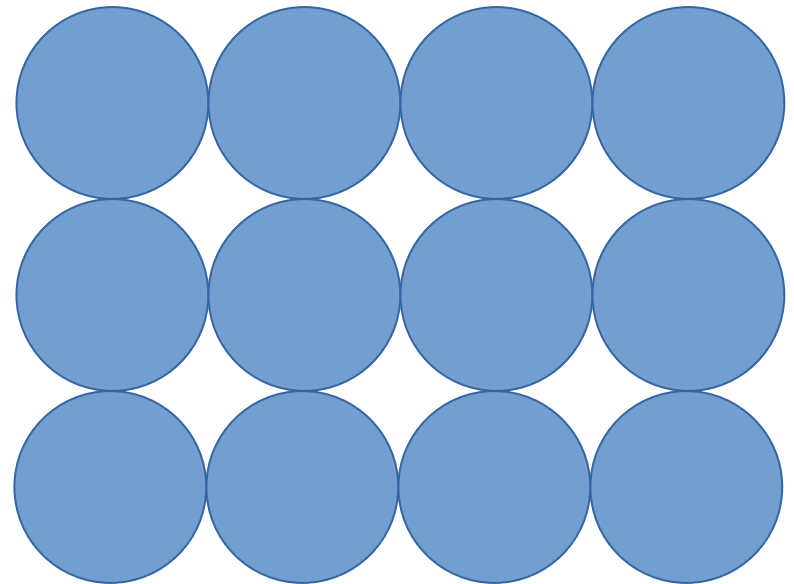
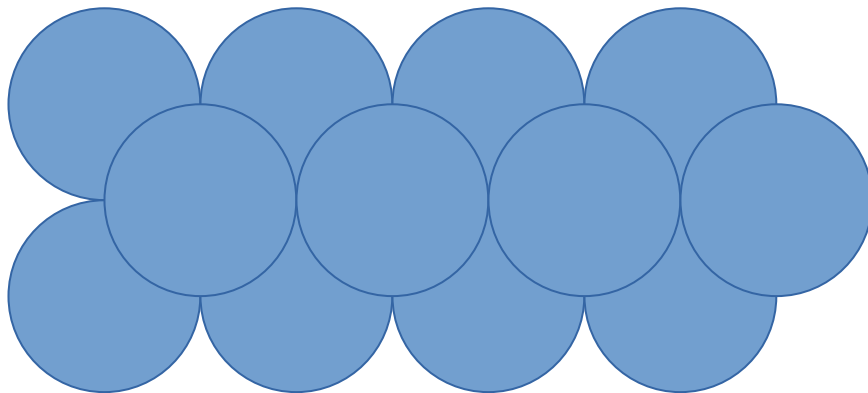


- **Hand**
- **Drip**



How to much DID your Water Lawn

- **Can estimate based on sprinkler head flow rates**
- **Tuna can**



How to much DID your Water Lawn



When to Water your Lawn

- **Early Morning**
- **Evening**
- **Once per week**

Watering your Flower Beds

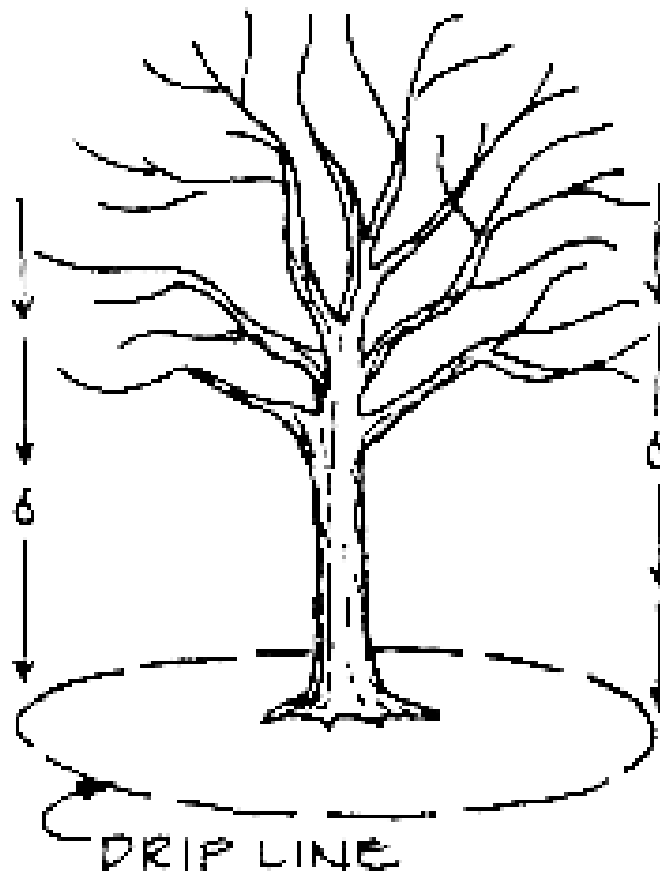
- **Based on plant varieties**
- **Same basic rules as for Lawn**
 - **Early morning/late evening**
 - **Drip/hand/rotary sprinkler**
 - **Usually about 1"/week**

Watering your Trees

- **Based on tree varieties**
- **Same basic rules as for Lawn**
 - **Early morning/late evening**
 - **Drip/hand/rotary sprinkler**
 - **Usually about 1"/week**
- **Drip Line**

Watering your Trees

- **Water at the Drip Line**



Watering your Water Features

- Usually best to do by hand or float system



Watering your Water Features

- **Try and shade the water to reduce evaporation**



Watering your Veggies

- Drip or Hand Watering
- Rule of Thumb 1-1.5 inch per week
- Total water needed from rainfall + irrigation

Seasonal Water Requirements

Cabbage	14 – 17
Cantaloupe	16 – 20
Carrot	12 – 16
Sweet corn	20 – 24
Onion	22 – 25
Pepper	25 – 30
Potato	20 – 25
Spinach	10 – 15
Tomato	22 – 26
Watermelon	10 – 15

Tips and Troubleshooting

- **Make sure your watering plants**
- **Learn to use your sprinkler control**
- **Test sprinklers monthly**

Summary

- **Why we need to water**
- **What are we trying to water**
 - Lawn
 - Flowers
 - Trees
 - Veggies
 - Water Features
- **Where will we get the water**
 - City
 - Well
 - Rain Water Collection
- **Best ways to water**
 - Drip
 - Hand
 - Sprinkler
- **Fix issues**

Mulch

- **3-4" layer of organic material**
- **Saves water**
- **Controls temperature**
- **Improves soil**

QUESTIONS?

www.bcmgtx.org

Big Country Master Gardeners on Facebook

