

**SUMMIT LAWN AND LANDSCAPE, INC.  
WATERING GUIDELINES**

**THE FIRST GROWING SEASON IS THE MOST IMPORTANT TIME FOR GETTING OUR PLANTS ESTABLISHED.** YOUR PLANTS SHOULD BE CHECKED APPROXIMATELY ONCE A WEEK FOR THE FIRST MONTH AFTER PLANTING (IN DRY WEATHER, CHECK MORE FREQUENTLY). LAWNS REQUIRE MORE FREQUENT CHECKS WHEN NEWLY PLANTED (ONCE A DAY). AFTERWARDS, WATER YOUR PLANTS WHEN THEY NEED WATER. NEWLY PLANTED LAWNS, TREES, SHRUBS, ANNUALS, AND PERENNEALS ARE VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO DROUGHT STRESS UNTIL THE ROOTS MOVE OUT OR DOWN INTO THE SURROUNDING SOIL. YOU WILL NEED TO CHECK THE SOIL AROUND YOUR PLANTS AND BENEATH YOUR LAWN FOR ADEQUATE MOISTURE. THIS CAN BE DONE BY MAKING A SMALL HOLE WITH A TROWEL 6" DEEP AND STICKING YOUR FINGER INTO THE SOIL TO CHECK FOR MOISTURE. THE SOIL SHOULD BE COOL, MOIST, AND CRUMBLY. YOU SHOULD AVOID DUSTY OR MUDDY CONDITIONS.

**WHEN TO WATER:** ALWAYS CHECK SOIL BEFORE WATERING TREES AND SHRUBS!!! WATERING DEPENDS ON YOUR SOIL TYPE, SUN EXPOSURE, TIME OF YEAR, AND TYPE OF PLANT. THE LIGHTER THE SOIL THE MORE FREQUENT THE WATERINGS. PLANTS AND TURF IN FULL SUN AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH A SOUTHERN EXPOSURE, WILL NEED MORE WATER THAN PLANTS IN THE SHADE. HOWEVER, PLANTS UNDER LARGE SHADE TREES WILL NEED MORE FREQUENT WATERINGS DUE TO COMPETITION FROM THE SURROUNDING TREE ROOTS. IT IS VERY IMPROTANT TO CHECK YOUR PLANTS DURING LATE SPRING AND SUMMER. IF YOU PLAN TO GO ON VACATION DURING THIS TIME, ARRANGE TO HAVE YOUR PLANTS WATERED. IF IT HAS BEEN A DRY FALL, BE SURE TO SOAK YOUR PLANTS JUST BEFORE THE FIRST FREEZE DATE. THIS WILL HELP PREVENT WINTER DAMAGE TO YOUR PLANTS. ALSO, IF THERE HASN'T BEEN ADEQUATE MOISTURE DURING THE WINTER, BE SURE TO SOAK YOUR PLANTS AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH DURING LATE WINTER (JAN. FEB. MAR.). **NOTE: BROADLEAF EVERGREENS (AZALEAS, HOLLIES, RHODODENDRONS) REQUIRE MORE WATER PRIOR TO THE FIRST FREEZE THAN NEEDLE-LEAVED EVERGREENS (JUNIPERS, PINES).**

**HOW TO WATER:** DIFFEENT SOILS REQUIRE DIFFERENT WATERING PLANS. SANDY SOILS, FOR INSTANCE, REQUIRE FREQUENT SHALLOW WATERINGS. BUT WITH HEAVY CLAY SOILS, DEEP THOROUGH WATERING IS ESSENTIAL. IMPROPER WATERING CAUSES GRASSES TO BECOME SHALLOW ROOTED AND VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO INSECTS AND DISIASE PROBLEMS. YOUNG TREES AND SHRUBS CAN BECOME STRESSED DUE TO "ROOT ROT" AND LACK OF SOIL OXYGEN. **MOST LAWNS IN THE KANSAS CITY AREA ARE OF THE CLAY SOIL TYPE.**

1: USE A HOSE WITH A GREAKER NOZZLE (DRAMM WATER BREAKER) OR BREAK THE STREAM OF WATER WITH YOUR THUMB. DO NOT USE A PISTOL GRIP OR SIMILAR SPRAY NOZZLE. PUT THE HOSE AT THE BASE OF THE PLANT. WATER THOROUGHLY. ALLOW WATER TO SOAK DEEPLY INTO THE SOIL. A GOOD SOAKING IS BETTER THAN SEVERAL LIGHT SPRINKLINGS. **NOTE: MOST SHORT RAINS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT ENOUGH TO SUBSTITUTE FOR DEEP WATERING.**

2: WATER LARGE LAWN AREAS OR SHRUB BEDS WITH A SPRINKLER OR SPRINKLER SYSTEM. ONE INCH OF WATER SHOULD BE APPLIED EVERY TIME THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM IS USED. THE AMOUNT OF WATER DOES NOT CHANGE, BUT HOW MANY TIMES A WEEK THE SPRINKLER IS USED DEPENDS OF THE TERMPERATURE AND TIME OF YEAR.

**GENERAL RULES (TYPE OF SPRINKLERS USED VARY TIMES)**

	<b>LAWNS</b>	<b>SHRUBS / TREES</b>
BELOW 75 DEGREES F:	1" OF WATER PER WEEK 1X / WEEK 30 MIN. PER AREA	ONE TIME / WEEK
ABOVE 75 DEGREES F:	2" TO 3" WATER/ WEEK 3X / WEEK 30 MIN. PER AREA	TWO TIMES / WEEK
ABOVE 100 DEGREES F:	3" OF WATER PER WEEK 3X / WEEK 30-40 MIN. PER AREA	THREE TIMES / WEEK
WINTER TIME:	1" OF WATER PER MONTH 1X / MONTH 30 MIN. PER AREA	ONE TIME / MONTH.

**ONE INCH OF WATER IS SUFFICIENT TO SOAK THE GROUND TO A DEPTH OF 6.0".** TO MEASURE, PLACE A COFFE CAN IN THE AREA AND WATER UNTIL 1.0" IS COLLECTED IN THE CAN. EACH SPRINKLER SYSTEM WILL VARY ON HOW LONG IT TAKES TO APPLY 1.0" OF WATER. THE GENERAL RULE IS 30 MINUTES PER AREA. EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE: BURMS, SLOPES, AND WINDWARD SIDES. THESE AREAS WILL REQUIRE SPECIAL ATTENTION AND INDIVIDUAL WATERING. AERATION OR USE OF GYPSUM WILL HELP AREAS ABSORB MORE WATER AND HOLD MOISTURE FOR LONGER PERIODS OF TIME. IT IS BEST TO AERATE LAWNS OR APPLY GYPSUM TO BEDDING AREAS EVERY 1 TO THREE YEARS.