

TODD CREEK VILLAGE

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT



Proud to be your area water provider

Irrigation: What You Need to Know to Be Water-wise

We're into the heavy irrigation season and to help you keep your existing landscape healthy without over watering, we've got some great watering tips from the experts at the CSU Extension Office.

- ✓ **Water lawn and planting beds according to their needs.** Check soil moisture before watering by inserting a six-inch screwdriver into the soil; if it can be easily inserted, you don't need to water.
- ✓ **Water at night.** By watering between 6pm and 10am, rather than the heat of the day, you'll maximize the benefits of your water usage. Set your sprinklers to hit the landscape only, and not sidewalks, driveways, windows, etc. You also shouldn't water when it's windy because not only will the water not go where it's supposed to, it's going to evaporate more quickly before it reaches the ground.
- ✓ **Look for footprints.** Water when footprints or mower tracks become easily visible on the turf or when large areas of the lawn take on a bluish-gray color.
- ✓ **Don't water when it has rained?** Skip watering on days following 1/2 inch or more of rain. On cool, cloudy days plants use less water and there is less evaporation which extends the time needed between watering.
- ✓ **Check your sprinkler system regularly.** Check to see how long each zone is scheduled to run and adjust the timer according to actual needs. A shade zone will require less water than a hot, sunny area, and the cooler seasons require less water than the hot summer months. Check sprinkler heads frequently to make sure that they are functioning properly. Knowing how to operate your system manually allows you to adjust water usage as needed and saves you money.
- ✓ **Watering with a hose?** First, watering with a hose can only be done if connected to a non-potable/irrigation hydrant (watering with potable water will result in fines). Use timers to remind you to move or stop soaker hoses and sprinklers. You should also check your sprinklers to better understand how much water they actually put out. Do this by placing a shallow container (a cat food or tuna fish can) in the yard and setting a timer to measure water. This will help you determine how long you need to water.

DO YOU HAVE A NEW LANDSCAPE? Establishing new plants and lawns will initially require more water. Adjust initial watering cycles to maintenance levels after the landscape is established and mulch where possible to conserve moisture.

Did you know...? CSU Extension Office experts will come to your home and do a lawn check for \$50 per visit to evaluate the health of your lawn and provide non-biased/research-based information. Call 303-637-8100 to schedule a lawn check. For additional information about watering efficiently, visit <https://bit.ly/3L3TTHt>.

TRANSPARENCY NOTICE: Board Meetings are held every 2nd Thursday at 2:00 pm at the Todd Creek Golf Club, 8455 Heritage Dr, Thornton, CO 80602. The public is always welcome.



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