

Why?

The most important factor when caring for newly installed landscape plants is providing the correct amount of water. During the first growing season proper watering plays an essential role for your plants ongoing survival, health and proper establishment. Established plants are in contact with greater volumes of soil due to their wide spreading root systems, thus making them more capable of obtaining adequate amounts of water on their own. However, new landscape plants have fewer roots to extract water. *So, your new plants need your help to survive!*

It's Easy!

Follow these simple steps to properly water your new landscape plants

When?

- First Week - *Once a day*
- Second Week - *Every other day*
- Third Week and on - *As needed*
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Helpful Hint: Check the moisture level by sticking your finger into the soil a couple inches below the plant. If the soil feels dry to the touch then that is a good indication the plant needs water.



Where and How?

Use a hose with a watering wand or anything to gently break the stream of water. Do NOT use a pistol grip spray nozzle, as the force of water can damage the landscape plants. Position the hose/water stream at the base of the plant (illustrated above) and allow the water to soak into the ground for the following times:

- Trees - *15 to 30 minutes (turn the water to a low flow and apply at the base of the plant)*
- Shrubs - *2 to 4 minutes*
- Perennials and Annuals - *Up to 1 minute*

Helpful Hint: A good soaking is better than several light sprinklings and short rains are NOT a sufficient substitute for deep watering. One inch of water is preferred to soak the ground to a proper depth for healthy root growth. After hand watering for the first couple weeks plantings can then be watered with a sprinkler or irrigation system. Watering all areas around the new plants will promote proper root extension.

Tree Gator Bags Can Make Watering Easy

This is a "Gator Bag" which is used to water trees more efficiently. To fill the bag, all you do is open the red cap and fill it up with water until full, close the cap, and walk away. The water will empty in 5-8 hours from 2 external emitters on the underside of the bag. The "Gator Bag" provides deep saturation with no runoff resulting in a very effective watering for the plant. Along with this you will spend less time watering! The "Gator Bags" should be filled every other day for two weeks.



NOTE: REMOVE GATOR BAGS AFTER FIRST TWO WEEKS!
Additional watering by sprinkler should be done after removal.



THE
CORNERSTONE
LANDSCAPE GROUP

www.CORNERSTONE-LANDSCAPE.com

watering guidelines

What?

Here are some tools you will find helpful for proper watering of your new landscape plants.



A **soaker hose** can be used to allow for a steady flow of water.

Helpful Hint: Attach to a timer and save time and money.

*Cornerstone does offer a soaker hose leasing program starting at \$199 and up. Let us install a system and timer and all you do is monitor it! EASY!



Any basic **garden hose** is needed.

Helpful Hint: Shorter lengths of hose are easier to work with. Also, higher grade hoses that resist "kinking" will make your life easier!



A **watering wand** attaches to the end of a hose and is used to reach down to the base of the plant and provide a gentle watering without bending over. This also provides a nice dispersion of the water so it doesn't erode the soil or mulch away from around the plant.

Helpful Hint: It's always best to direct the water to the base of the plant and not water "over the top" of the leaves, where possible.



A **sprinkler** can be used to water larger areas, such as entire landscape beds. The best time to water with a sprinkler is either in the morning or in the evening.

Helpful Hint: Use a **watering timer** (see below) to make this easier.

CAUTION: Watering repeatedly "over the top" of some plant species may cause minor damage to their leaves. Examples include shrub dogwoods and hydrangeas. Ask us if you are unsure.



A **watering timer** can be used to set certain times when watering will occur and/or how long it will occur.

Helpful Hint: How long do you water? This will vary depending on water pressure and sprinkler type. Place a pie pan (or similar) within reach of the sprinkler. When there is one inch of water in the pan, you have done enough. Once you know the amount of time needed to reach one inch, you can set your timer for that amount each time. EASY!

If you have any additional questions about watering feel free to contact us at 260-425-9933