

Watering Guidelines for Colorado Springs' Lawns

Season	Months	Guidelines
Late Winter	January, February	Once per month if we are getting minimal snowfall. Water on days 50 degrees or warmer.
Spring	March, April, May	Water 1-2 times per week using a "cycle & soak" (below) method of watering to minimize waste due to runoff. Water a total of 25-30 min for fixed, pop-up heads and 45-50 per zone for rotating heads.
Summer	June, July, August, Early September	Water using "cycle & soak" method twice per week. Monitor your lawn and look for "hotspots" or dry areas. Adjust nearby heads or timer to ensure good coverage.
Fall	Late September, October	Water 1-2 times per week, depending on temps and rainfall. Monitor your lawn to determine it's watering needs.
Late Fall/ Early Winter	November, December	Water once per month if there is low snowfall or days above 50 degrees.

- Proper watering is critical to your lawn's health and vigor. Deep and infrequent watering is the best practice. This means wetting the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches per irrigation. This

equates to ½” of irrigation at a time. **This method of watering matches current and proposed twice a week watering restrictions in Colorado Springs.**

- Water at times of low wind.
- Water during the very early morning rather than in the afternoon or evening to minimize risk for disease
- To reduce water runoff and to help water penetrate and soak deeply into the soil, we recommend **“Cycle and Soak”** watering schedule. Instead of watering for a long period of time and allowing the water to runoff into the street, divide the total watering time per zone by 3. Water 3 shorter intervals (all in the same morning). For example at 3am, 4am, and 5am, before winds pick up. Each cycle, water for 15 minutes for rotor heads, 8 minutes for stationary pop-ups, and 30 minutes for low volume MP Rotator heads. (These times are averages sampled from other lawns to reach a desired amount of water, which is ½” at a time.) Water less in shaded or poorly drained areas.
- **Do not water every day or two. Frequent, short watering encourages shallow roots, unhealthy grass, plants, and leaves turf susceptible to drought, weeds, and disease.**
- Water newer trees using soaker hoses or direct hose drips once every couple of weeks.