"[The irrigation specialist] was so knowledgeable and patient in explaining things to me. I am an 86 year-old widow and had little understanding of my sprinkler system. It was great to have someone who knew so much to come help me. I applaud the City for not only providing this service to people like me, but for helping me to conserve water." Eleanor A.

#### Remember the Ordinance Guidelines

- Outdoor watering is limited to a maximum of twice per week. Even-numbered addresses are allowed to water on Sundays and Thursdays. Odd-numbered addresses are allowed to water on Saturdays and Wednesdays.
- Don't water your yard between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from April 1st to October 31st.
- Repair any broken, missing or misdirected sprinkler heads.
- Be sure not to water during any form of precipitation.
- Automatic irrigation systems must have operational rain and freeze sensors.
- Don't allow your sprinkler system to water driveways, sidewalks or streets.
- Don't allow water to runoff onto a street or other drainage area when you are watering.
- Hand water or use a soaker hose. Both are permitted at any time.
- Monitor your total usage. With our tieredrate system, you will pay an added surcharge above 10,000 gallons and an additional surcharge above 15,000 gallons per month.

Check our website at SaveDallasWater.com for information regarding other conservation programs and additional ways to save water.

> City of Dallas Water Utilities Water Conservation 1500 Marilla Street, Room 2AN Dallas, TX 75201 (214) 670-3155



Publication No. 14/15-38 4/15



City of Dallas Water Conservation

# Get a FREE Irrigation System Check-up!

## **No Strings Attached!**





### Free Irrigation System Check-up

As a service to our customers, City of Dallas Water Utilities is conducting FREE automatic irrigation system check-ups.

During the summer months, landscape watering typically accounts for the majority of household water use. This high summer use increases both our water bills and the demand on our water supply. Proper irrigation maintenance is the best path to water conservation.

These check-ups may help improve the efficiency of your existing irrigation system by identifying:

- Programming errors
- Leaks in the system
- Broken or misaligned equipment
- Problems with pressure (too high or too low)
- Coverage problems

The irrigation specialists will also make recommendations such as:

- Programming suggestions
- Turf water requirements
- Possible equipment upgrades
- Repair and maintenance tips

Our goal is to help you save water and money! Naturally, all recommendations are subject to the homeowner's discretion. Contact us to schedule your free check-up today by going to SaveDallasWater.com or call us at 214-670-3155.

### Water Your Lawn Efficiently

There are a number of factors that will determine the amount and frequency of irrigation your lawn may need. For example, grass type, soil condition, landscape slope, and sun and shade conditions are all factors that impact how much and how often you should water. Clay soils ("black gumbo") will retain water longer but are difficult to water without causing runoff. Several short water cycles can help penetration in this case. Sandy soils may require short and more frequent watering cycles. Similarly, southern or western exposures may need more frequent watering than northern exposures or shaded areas.

Horticulturists recommend watering your lawn deeply and infrequently to promote a strong root system. Most grasses only need one inch of water every five to ten days in the heat of summer. How long must you water to apply one inch? It depends on the type of irrigation equipment, water pressure, wind and sun/shade conditions. A FREE irrigation system check-up by one of our licensed landscape irrigation specialists can help you determine the specific run times required for your unique landscape. Don't forget to include





rainwater in your weekly watering calculation. Use a rain gauge to measure any rainwater you receive during the week and deduct it from your weekly supplemental watering.

The best time to water is in the early morning when evaporation rates are at their lowest, there is little wind and water pressure is at its best. Grasses are also less likely to develop diseases or pest problems if watered in the morning.

"This analysis was the ultimate; done in a most courteous, professional, and educational [manner]; it provided me with great ideas that I will implement before the week is out." Leniel G.

"The irrigator who came to my house was professional and very knowledgeable about improvements I could make to my existing sprinkler heads to save water and get my desired results." David N.