ESTABLISHMENT PERMITS

What is an establishment permit?
An establishment permit allows you to temporarily water more frequently than three days per week and to water during the day when sprinklers are normally not allowed.

Who needs an establishment permit?
Any residential or commercial water customer who needs to frequently water new grass sod, seed or landscape plants with sprinklers.

How long will the permit last?
The permit is valid for 28 days for new sod, flowers, shrubs or trees. Permits for seeding projects are valid for 42 days.

Visit csu.org/waterwiserules or email ESTP@csu.org

What do I need to apply?
Before you plant sod or seed, make sure you review these soil preparation requirements.

For sod or non-native grass seed: submit receipts or soil test results with your application to demonstrate you’ve done one of the following:

- Added 4 cubic yards per 1000 square feet of approved soil amendment and mixed it into the soil.
- Had the soil tested by a professional soil testing laboratory and followed the soil test recommendations. A list of labs is available at csu.org.

For native grass projects or flowers, shrubs or trees: soil preparation is not required. However, for native grass projects, submit a receipt showing the grass mix or species purchased. Check our list of qualifying grass seed mixes at csu.org.

Do I need a permit for other watering methods?
An establishment permit is only needed for areas that will be watered with sprinklers. Drip irrigation, watering cans, and hose-end watering with a shut-off nozzle are allowed at any time under the water-wise rules.

How do I apply?
Online: csu.org/waterwiserules
Emailed to ESTP@csu.org
In person: Conservation and Environmental Center, 2855 Mesa Rd., 80904 (M-F, 8 am to 5 pm).

How do I get the permit?
You’ll receive an email with a permit you can print and post. If you need a yard sign, they’re available at the Conservation and Environmental Center at 2855 Mesa Rd., 80904.

Do I have to follow a watering schedule?
No. To help your project succeed, consider following the recommended watering schedule you’ll receive with your permit.

Visit csu.org/waterwiserules to learn more.