IMPROVING YOUR SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Improvements to your sprinkler system can make it more efficient, reducing landscape water use 5 to 20% or more.

CHECK SPRINKLERS MONTHLY

Look for problems like sunken sprinkler heads, leaks, blocked nozzles and incorrect arcs. These can lead to increased run times and decreased watering efficiency.

INSTALL A RAIN SENSOR

- Rain sensors help prevent the sprinkler system from running when it rains. They usually pay for themselves in one season.
- Check sensors each year to make sure they are working properly.
- Rebate tip: residential customers can receive a rebate of up to $25 for a wired rain sensor and up to $50 for a wireless rain sensor.

ADJUST WATERING SCHEDULE

- In the spring and fall, water 1-2 times per week.
- In the summer, water up to three days per week, before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

CHOOSE MULTI-STREAM NOZZLES

- Replace standard fixed-spray nozzles with multi-stream nozzles to improve efficiency.
- These nozzles water slower with larger droplets and a more even pattern.
- Rebate tip: We offer up to a $4 rebate (per nozzle) for qualifying nozzles.
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REDUCE HIGH-PRESSURE ISSUES

- High pressure issues can cause water loss due to misting, higher water flows and uneven coverage.
- Replacing sprinkler bodies with built-in pressure regulation can improve landscape appearance with less water.

ELIMINATE LOW-HEAD DRAINAGE

- Sprinkler heads without check valves can allow the water in the pipe to drain each time the zone turns off.
- Installing sprinkler bodies with check valves reduce water wasted from pipes draining. This can save up to 5% of water used.
- Rebate tip: residential customers can receive up to a $5 rebate per head with pressure regulation or check valves. Commercial customers can receive up to a $15 rebate per head.

FIVE TIPS FOR WISE LANDSCAPE WATER USE

- Check your sprinkler system monthly for leaks, misalignment and breaks. Make necessary repairs.
- Add a rain sensor to prevent your sprinklers from running during rain.
- Replace fixed spray nozzles with multi-stream nozzles for better coverage and less runoff.
- Swap old sprinkler heads with pressure-regulating heads to minimize misting.
- Eliminate low-head drainage with sprinkler bodies with check valves.

Visit csu.org for more water-wise information, including irrigation rebates and instructional videos.