




Tree and Shrub Watering Guide






Watering guide for trees during the growing season (April through September)

Less than 4 inches*	5-9 inches*	Greater than 10 inches*
		
Water 10 gallons per inch of trunk diameter once per week.	Water 10 gallons per inch of trunk diameter three times per month.	Water 15 gallons per inch of trunk diameter twice per month.

Give trees the same amount 1-2 times per month during winter months (October through March).

* Inches of trunk diameter, measured 4.5 feet above the soil line.

Watering guide for shrubs during the growing season (April through September)

Less than 3 feet tall	4-5 feet tall	6 feet tall or greater
		
Water 2 gallons once per week.	Water 5 gallons three times per month.	Water 10 gallons twice per month.

Give shrubs the same amount 1-2 times per month during winter months (October through March).

More xeriscape tips and ideas are online at csu.org.





Tips for trees and shrubs

- Apply water the dripline to several feet outside the dripline with a watering can, soft spray wand attached to a hose or a soaker hose.
- Recently transplanted trees and shrubs need more frequent watering. Check Garden Note 635, Care of Recently Plant Trees, for guidelines (www.cmg.colostate.edu).
- Trees and shrubs planted in lawn areas do not need to be watered separately from grass areas as long as the grass is receiving regular irrigation.
- Consider planting trees and shrubs that require less supplemental water.

Adapted from "Watering Trees and Shrubs; Striking The Balance Between Plant Health and Water Conservation" by Ronda Koski, research associate, Colorado State University

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