

# Watering for the Season



In Colorado Springs, nearly 50 percent of a household's water consumption is used for the lawn and landscape. By only giving your lawn what it needs based on the season, you can have a green, healthy lawn while cutting down on your water use and costs.

Use the graph to determine how much water and how many watering days your grass needs each week.

Apply one-half inch of water on each watering day. Program your system to water in cycles allowing water to soak into the ground between cycles.



## How long does it take to water one-half inch?

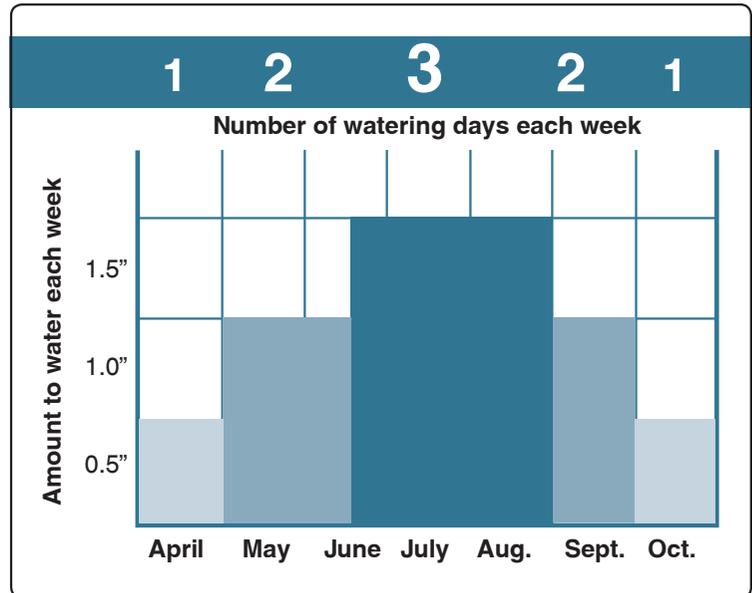
A typical spray zone takes about 20 minutes to water one-half inch, so a typical watering day would be to run that zone for three cycles of seven minutes per cycle.

- **Spray zones** apply water at a very fast rate and should have three cycles to prevent runoff.

A typical rotor zone takes about 45 minutes to water a one-half inch; therefore, a typical watering day would be to run that zone for two cycles of 22 minutes.

- **Rotor zones** apply water at a slow rate and should have two cycles to prevent runoff.

Leave about an hour between cycles to allow for the water to soak into the ground. This watering method is called cycle and soak and is a great way to reduce runoff, improve rooting depth and increase the effectiveness of the water being applied. Check out our cycle and soak video and fact sheet for a more in-depth look at this process.



## Another tip

Water in the evening or early morning to reduce evaporation and make sure to adjust the number of watering days each time the season changes. This is also a good time to check your sprinkler system for leaks or deficiencies.

## For added savings

Install a rain sensor to help manage your system. Visit our website to see our rain sensor rebates other irrigation equipment incentives.

More xeriscape tips and ideas are online at [csu.org](http://csu.org).

