



LAMMSCAPES!

Watering Guidelines for your Plants

The general rule of thumb is that you need **an average of one inch of water per week**. Tailor your watering schedule to the weather conditions, soil type and the needs of the specific plants in your area.

Remember that too much water can be just as harmful to the plant as not enough water. A thorough weekly watering is much better for the plant than light daily water!!!

- Always soak newly planted stock thoroughly after installation
- Then water at least 2 times/week for the first month, depending on the weather.
- For the remainder of the season, water once per week until the ground freezes.
- Keep in mind, our Wisconsin soils and weather vary tremendously! Watering schedules should be altered for unusual conditions:

Heavy clay soil or cool, rainy weather – Water half as often. An inch rainfall during the week will usually eliminate your need to water.

Sandy, gravel-like soil or very hot weather – Water twice as often.

Perennials and plants with smaller root systems - Will usually require more frequent watering than large trees.

Foundation plants under house overhangs – May need regular watering, even after they are established because rain does not reach them.

Mulch in your planting beds – Bark mulch will help to retain moisture & reduce weeds in your beds. Monitor plants and soil areas to prevent areas that are too wet.

How do I know when to water?

Check the soil alongside the root ball 12-18” below the surface. If it feels dry to the touch – water. If it feels wet to the touch – cultivate the area to allow oxygen into the soil.

What time of day should I water?

The best times to water are in the **morning** or the **late afternoon**. Watering mid – day leads to the water evaporating before the plants can use it and may even burn the leaves. Watering at night can lead to fungal problems.

When should I stop watering in the Fall?

Continue watering as needed until the soil freezes. Evergreens especially need plenty of water in the fall so their needles aren't dried out by the winter wind and sun!

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