

Your Guide to WATERING

Regular watering is one of the most important things you can do to give your plants a healthy start.

The basics

TREES AND SHRUBS.

Thoroughly soak for 10-15 minutes at least once per week from spring until the ground freezes for the first one to two years.

SMALLER PERENNIALS AND ANNUALS.

Smaller root systems don't take up as much water, so thoroughly soak your small plants every 3-4 days (sometimes more in the heat of summer) from spring until the ground freezes. See [Moisture Levels](#).

SLOWLY AND GENEROUSLY.

It's better to water thoroughly, than more frequently, soaking the soil to the root ball. This helps roots reach deeper and grow stronger.

FOCUS ON THE SOIL AND ROOTS.

Instead of watering from above, direct water evenly to soil all around the plant. Watering leaves can lead to disease.

WATER IN THE MORNING.

This helps keep water from evaporating in the heat of the day and guards against disease.

MOISTURE LEVELS.

Let the surface dry out a bit between waterings, but don't let plants completely dry out (i.e. under the surface). This can stress roots and take valuable energy from your plants.

KEEP A SCHEDULE.

Set a reminder on your phone or leave your hose/watering can where you can see it. Then water on the same day(s) each week so it becomes a habit. If weather is very dry and/or hot, check plants more often.