Fact Sheet

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How on Earth Do You Water Your Lawn?

○ **NRCS**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

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Summer Lawn Watering

When to Water   Water early in the morning. Avoid watering in the afternoon.

How Much to Water   Wet the soil to a depth of 4 to 6 inches. Use a soil probe or screwdriver to determine the depth the water actually reaches. One to 1.5 inches of water every fifth day is adequate.

How to Water   Do not use a sprinkler that sprays a fine mist into the air. A sprinkler that releases large drops of water close to the ground will save water.

Water sloping lawns at the top of the slope so water penetrates the soil.

To determine how much water your sprinkler applies:

1.   Space out 3 to 5 cans at different intervals from the sprinkler. The last can should be near the edge of the sprinkler coverage.

2.   Run the sprinkler for 30 minutes.

3.   Add the inches of water in all cans. Divide the total inches by the number of cans to obtain an average.

4.   To find out how many inches of water are applied in 1 hour, multiply the average by 2.

5.   Take into consideration the recent rainfalls. Usually watering every 5 days is sufficient.

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