

Fact Sheet



What on Earth Do You Know About Your Lawn?



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

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Factors to Consider

Soils:

Sandy soils are coarse-textured soils. They hold less moisture. Water more often for shorter time periods.

Clay soils hold more moisture, but absorb water slowly because of the fine textured particles. Water very slowly and extend over a longer period.

Loamy soils contain sand and clay particles. Watering rates fall between sand and clay.

If water is running off, soils have reached their saturation point. Shut off water or move sprinkler.

Management:

Have soils tested before applying fertilizer. Call your local county extension office for a soil test kit. Tests are inexpensive and can save money on fertilizer.

Fertilize in the early spring and fall. This will meet most grass requirements for nutrients. Applications of fertilizers with high rates of soluble nitrogen during late spring and summer increase water use.

Grass mowed at 2 to 3 inches develops a deeper root system than grass mowed at 1 inch. Deeper roots need less water.

The water you put on your lawn is expensive. It is treated drinking water.

Cost:

Conservation Across America

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