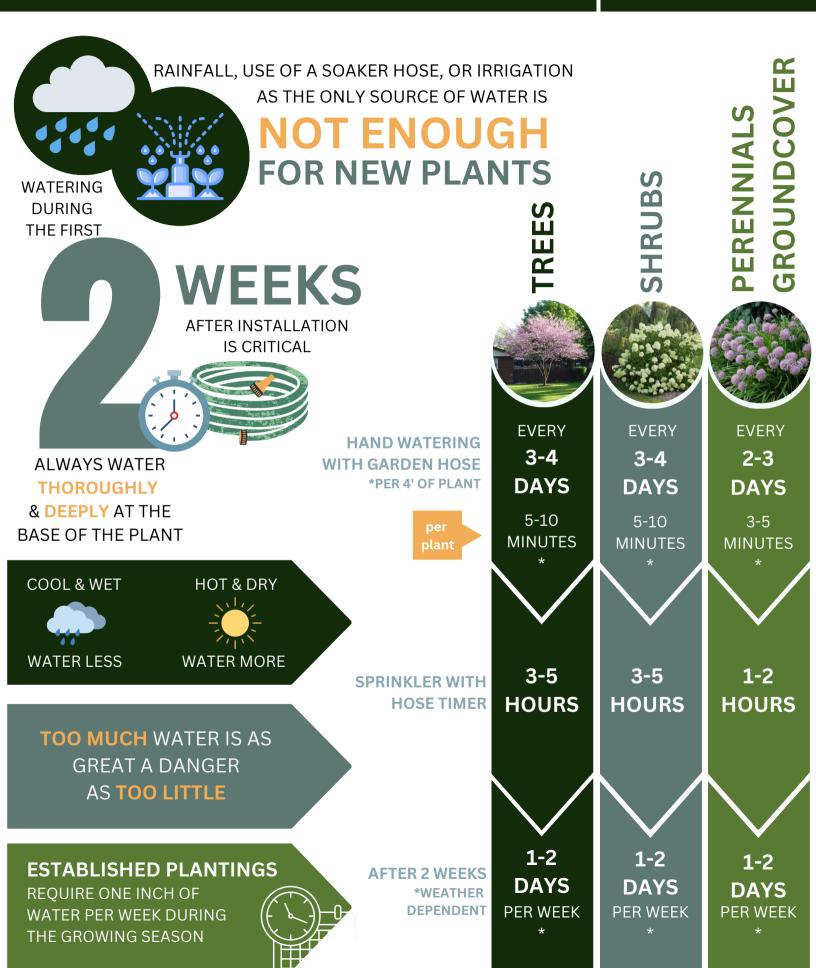
## WATERING INSTRUCTIONS





## WATERING INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEWLY INSTALLED PLANTS



The first two weeks after installation of your plants is critical to their survival. Plan to be available to "baby" your new plants during this important time of establishment.

Watering every 3-4 days is necessary for trees and shrubs. Perennials and groundcovers should be watered more often because their root balls are much smaller, approximately every 2-3 days.

Ideally, water is best applied early in the day, but it is more important to water thoroughly and deeply than to worry about the time of day. The thing to remember about plant establishment is WATER, WATER, WATER. You may want to invest in a hose, timer and sprinkler to help.

If you have an irrigation system, it is crucial that you inspect it carefully to make sure that it is reaching all the new plantings. Almost all systems need adjustment after plant installation. Also, make sure it is set to give adequate water for plant establishment, not maintenance.

**Trees & Shrubs:** Place the open end of the hose at the base of the plant and allow it to gently flow onto the root ball of the plant. The rate of flow should be such that it soaks into the soil without running off or puddling. You can water each plant individually - five to ten minutes per four feet of plant, or place a sprinkler to cover the area for several (3-5) hours. We do not recommend use of a soaker hose or an irrigation system as the only source of water during this initial establishment period.

**Groundcover & Perennials:** Because these plants have much smaller root balls than their woody companions, they will need more frequent watering. Sprinklers are probably the easiest way to apply water. A sprinkler should be set to run for one to two hours allowing water to penetrate the top 6-12" of soil.

After the fire two weeks, the new plant material will need less frequent watering. At this time, you should reduce watering to 1-2 times per week. Hot, windy weather will call for more frequent watering. Each watering must be a deep, thorough soaking.

For established plantings, the rule of thumb is to apply one inch of water per week during the growing season. This can be accurately measured by setting a can or rain gauge in the planting area and making sure the sprinkler or the sky fills it to the recommended amount at least once per week (please note, one inch of water wets the soil to a depth of 8-10").

Water throughout the growing season (the time between the last and first frost) until Thanksgiving for leaf and roof system development. The mulch we have applied will help in maintaining soil moisture. During cool, wet periods such as spring, less watering will be needed; during dry, windy periods common in summer or fall, more.

It is important to check the soil conditions by probing the soil with a shovel or trowel if you are unsure as to its moisture condition. If it is dry, add water, if it is moist - sit back and enjoy your plantings.

Remember, too much water is as great a danger as too little. A little common sense and observing eyes coupled with these instructions will give your new plants the care they need to flourish. Proper watering during the first growing season is the single most important factor in successful planting.