



**Lawn Watering Guidelines**

Part of your lease requirement is that you properly care for plantings and turf at your rental home. To help you with this, here are some guidelines on how much is appropriate to water the lawn.

The signs for a thirsty lawn are:

1. When you walk across the lawn and you can still see your footprints several hours later
2. A change of color from lush green to a bluish-gray color.

When you see these signs, the lawn is ready to be watered and waiting much longer will cause the lawn to become stressed. Historical weather information shows us that the average amount of water needed for a bluegrass lawn is as follows:

April	May	June	July	August	September	October
.90	1.20	1.50	1.50	1.25	1.00	.65
inches/week	inches/week	inches/week	inches/week	inches/week	inches/week	inches/week
irrigate 2x/week	irrigate 2-3x/week	irrigate 4x/week	irrigate 4x/week	irrigate 4x/week	irrigate 2-3x/week	irrigate 2x/week

To determine how much to water your lawn, use the chart above and then subtract rainfall received each week to determine how much irrigation water you will need to apply. The above chart is based upon historical averages, but at any given time it can be cooler or hotter than average and adjustments will need to be made to your watering schedule to account for the differences between actual weather conditions and the historical averages. Remember to watch your lawn for the signs of footprinting and changing color. **WATER YOUR LAWN WHEN IT IS THIRSTY!**

You can measure your irrigation effort very simply. Here is a simple test you can do. You will need a can such as soup can, fruit or vegetable can or coffee can. (Tuna fish cans are too shallow and water will splash out.) You will also need a ruler and a watch.

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1. Place the can somewhere in the area being watered by the sprinkler.
2. Turn on the sprinklers for 15 minutes. Make sure all the sprinkler heads are working properly.
3. Turn off the sprinklers after 15 minutes.
4. With the ruler measure how deep the water is in the can.
5. Use this chart to determine how long to water:

Amount of water in the can	Length of time to water
1/8"	1 hour
1/4"	30 minutes
3/8"	20 minutes
1/2"	15 minutes
3/4"	10 minutes

Remember to remove the cans when you are done for the day!

Use this technique for any irrigation system – automatic or manual. If you have an automatic system at your rental home and have questions about the operation of a sprinkler clock, please call us. If you have a manual system, you will need to move your sprinklers around to provide this same level of moisture to each area.

Thank you for your time and attention to your residence's landscape. We appreciate your help in keeping your home looking good and the lawn healthy!

Sincerely,

ROCKY MOUNTAIN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC.

Source of information: Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District