

# Water Conservation Will Save You Money and Protect Natures Most Valuable Resource - "Clean Water"

## Water Conservation Tips For Lawn Sprinkler Systems

### Determine how much water your sprinkler system is applying to your lawn (precipitation rate)

The average lawn requires between 1" and 1 ½" inches of water per week including water from rainfall. This can be achieved by watering ½" inch two or three times per week. By performing the following tests you will be able to determine the precipitation rate or how much water your sprinkler system is applying to your lawn.

- Step 1: Place several flat bottom, straight sided catch cans (i.e. coffee cans, soup cans) at various locations on your lawn.
- Step 2: Operate your sprinkler system as usual for that day.
- Step 3: When sprinkler system shuts off measure the depth of water in each can.
- Step 4: Add up the amount of water in each can and divide by the number of cans used.

Example:

Can # 1	= 3/8"
Can # 2	= 1/2"
Can # 3	= 5/8"
Can # 4	= 3/8"
Can # 5	= 5/8"
Can # 6	= 1/2"

**Total** = 3" of water divided by 6 cans = ½" of water per sprinkler cycle  
@ 3 sprinkler cycles per week x ½" of water per cycle = 1 ½" of water

If your system is applying more than 1 ½" of water reduce the time for each zone on your sprinkler timer and repeat the process.

**NOTE:** During the summer months there is signage outside of Town Hall and in front of the water tower across the street from Town Hall that suggests how long your sprinkler needs to run (on your designated watering days) based on precipitation and weather conditions.