

# IRRIGATION SPLASH COURSE

As a homeowner, you control the single most important factor in the success of your lawn's health -- your watering program. So whether you're new to Florida lawns, or just haven't recalibrated your irrigation system lately, we hope you'll take a moment for a quick refresher on lawn irrigation. Let's dive in!

## Hydration Defense

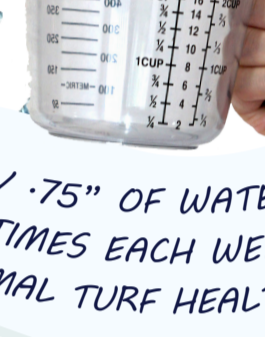
In addition to providing a lush appearance, well-hydrated turf is better equipped to choke out weeds and withstand insect damage. Fertilization is important, but proper watering is absolutely critical. Without it, your turf will begin to decline in a matter of days with permanent turf loss occurring as quickly as two weeks. Additionally, well-watered turf improves the fertilizer absorption rate, so you'll be sure to get the most value from your fertilization program!



*WITHOUT ENOUGH WATER, PERMANENT LAWN DAMAGE CAN OCCUR IN JUST DAYS!*

## How Much to Water




From a conservation standpoint, local ordinances may recommend the bare minimum for turf survival. However, professionals understand that such deprivation compounds turf issues with weed germination, brown spots, and a weak root system. We recommend .75" three times per week to preserve the ideal color, root strength, and weed control.



*APPLY .75" OF WATER THREE TIMES EACH WEEK FOR OPTIMAL TURF HEALTH.*

## How Long to Water

Every irrigation system is unique, so to find out how long it takes to apply .75" (19 mm) per zone, you'll want to find how much water your system applies per minute. This *Application Rate* allows you to calculate how many minutes the system must run. Here's an easy way to find your rate:

-  **Place a few empty cans throughout a zone. Run the zone for 10 minutes.**
-  **Measure the water in millimeters and find the average collected.**
-  **Divide the average by 10 to find your per-minute application rate.**

Now that you know how many millimeters are applied per minute, simply divide 19 (mm) by your per minute application rate.

That's it! The resulting value is the number of minutes that zone should run to apply 19mm (.75") of water. Set the timer and repeat for each zone.





## How Often to Water

Once you determine how long each zone must run, set the system to water three times per week. Your irrigation system will use its solar sync to skip any waterings if it rains but be sure to add waterings if the grass becomes bluish-gray or grass blades begin to fold. These are symptoms that water is needed within 48 hours.



At Deans, we're passionate about helping you achieve the lawn of your dreams. Prioritizing proper watering practices is an absolute must to achieve and sustain a green and healthy lawn. By following these simple guidelines, you'll be sure to make a splash with the best lawn on the block!

### DEANS SERVICES RECOMMENDED WATERING SCHEDULE

	 Amount	 Times weekly	 MP Time*	 PGP Time*
86°+	3/4"	3	105 mins	45 mins
76-85°	1/2"	2	70 mins	30 mins
46-75°	1/2"	1	70 mins	30 mins
< 46°	Do not water			

**\*MP Heads vs. PGP Heads**  
 \*MP (high-efficiency) heads disperse water more slowly than PGP heads. This reduces water runoff by allowing your lawn more absorption time. While more efficient, MP heads require a longer run time than traditional PGP heads.

To tell which type you have, look at the spray pattern. MPs apply water in several pin streams while PGPs spray in a jet-spray pattern similar to a garden hose.

- Ornamentals require 20 minutes, twice per week.
- Suggestions are approximate.
- Local restrictions may apply.