



Tips on Proper Sprinkler Timer Settings:

One of the best ways to improve your lawn/grass/tress/shrubs is proper watering. After all you have invested a lot of money into your yard so you might as well maximize your enjoyment. Here are some simple tips in how to set your sprinkler timer for a beautiful yard – while saving you money!

1. **Always water early mornings or late evenings** to minimize evaporation and lawn disease.
2. **Watering times days should be every other day – max!** This saves water, makes your roots grow deeper, your lawn/yard healthier, and makes your plants (yard) more drought resistant.
3. **The follow types of heads normally require the following watering times:**
 - Rain-bird impact head of going full circle sprays need 50 to 70 minutes every other day (normally these types of heads are on only on larger lawns). If they are ½ circle sprays then cut it in half -25-35 minutes.
 - Orbital spray heads (for grass) need to normally water 20 – 30 minutes every other day
 - Planters/bubblers normally need 15 minutes every other day(Note depending slope, sun, soil type, location, etc, a particular zone/location may need more or less watering time. You'll need to learn to watch your yard and adjust a particular zone.)
4. **Two examples of timer settings**
 - a. **For level yards with no slope.** If you have 6 stations: 4 orbital stations x 30 min = 120min (2 hrs) & 2 planters x15=30 min.s which = 2 ½ hrs of total watering every other day. If you start watering at 6:00 and finish at 8:30am
 - b. **For sloped yards.** Set timer a 6 station timer to cycle through 3 times - the same total time: Ex. 4 orbital stations x 30/3=10 min =40 min.s & 2 planters x15/3 =5 min.s = 10 min +40 min = 50 minutes each cycle. (And 50 x 3 cycles = 150 minutes or 2 ½ hrs) This the exact same watering time, however set the clock start time for these lengths (1 time) but to come on at 3 different start times such as: 5:00 am, then 6:00am, 7:00am - being done at 8:00am. This watering gives the ground time to saturate and soak in instead of running off your yard and you can now often water even less time. Note: you need to give extra time (between completed cycles as noted above) so as to give time if it's needed to up the % time (watering longer) say to 110%. This way it won't go into the other start cycle.
5. **Use the % dial on your timer.** Many newer sprinkler timers have a % dial which can save a lot of water - especially in the spring and fall when you only need 1/3 to ½ as much water. Simply adjust the % dial to say 50%. As well in the middle of a very hot summer you may need to water up to 110% for a week or two.
6. **If it rains, turn off your sprinkler clock for a few days** to save water ... just don't forget to turn it back on as it is hard(and takes lots of water) to get your lawn caught back up. Many timers have a function to have it go off cycle for a few days and then pick up it's regular watering. That way you won't forget to turn your sprinkler back on!
7. **Fertilize!** This saves you water and makes your yard (grass, plants, trees, etc.) healthier. Remember lots of watering does not make your lawn healthier - or greener. However, proper water and fertilizing will!

Check out the web site www.slowtheflow.org which gives even more valuable and detailed information on watering schedules, landscaping tips and free landscape classes. It's a great web site! **Oh, and by the way**, since a large percent of our business comes by word of mouth, we have created a **Referral Reward** (*money, home improvements, vacation packages*) for your referrals of friends, family and acquaintances that in turn buy from us. It's a win-win three ways. You not only receive a reward while we receive a sale, but your referred person receives significant additional options and discounts on their new home - all because of you! Simply go to www.phutah.com, and click on "Referral Reward."

