

Watering Your Lawn:

Most established turfgrasses require about 1-inch of water per week during the active growth season. Supplemental irrigation should soak the soil to a six to eight inch depth. Multiple start times may be needed to prevent runoff and improve irrigation efficiency on some soils. Two, ½-inch applications will be better if runoff occurs. The best time to irrigate is in the early morning hours. This reduces the chances of disease development and makes more efficient use of water.

How long should I water? Place cups or rain gauges out in the sprinkler pattern to catch water for 15 minutes. Measure the amount of water in each cup and then take the average amount. Multiply that amount by 4 to obtain the hourly watering rate. Suppose the hourly rate is 1/4 inch. Then you know you'll need to run the water for three to four hours in that spot to apply the desired amount.

