



# ALLIANCE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC

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## Watering Guidelines for Colorado Springs Lawns

<u>Season</u>	<u>During Months</u>	<u>Guidelines</u>
Late Winter	January/February	Hand water once per month if we are getting minimal snowfall. Water on days 50 degrees or warmer for about 20 minutes per zone.
Spring	March/April/May	Water twice per week, 20-25 per zone of stationary pop-up head, 40-45 minutes per zone for rotating (oscillating) heads. <i>Note: Sprinklers will be turned on around Mother's Day (2<sup>nd</sup> week of May). You will need to hand water the lawn until the sprinklers are turned on.</i>
Summer	June/July/August, Early September	Water three times per week (or every other day) in early morning (before 8am), 25-30 minutes per zone on stationary pop-up heads or 45-50 minutes per zone on rotating heads. Sprinklers will be set to this schedule or per water restrictions schedule for your local area.
Fall	Late September/October	Water twice per week, early morning as above Summer schedule until late October/ early November. <i>Note: Sprinklers will be shut off for winter season before Halloween so you will need to hand water until early November if weather permits. Soil temperatures are warm and roots still need water.</i>
Late Fall	November/December	Water once per month if there is low snowfall or days above 50 degrees. Remember to disconnect gardening hose after watering.

### Watering Notes:

Proper watering is critical to your lawn's health and vigor. Deep and infrequent watering is the best practice. This means wetting the soil to a depth of 35 inches per irrigation.

Water during the morning rather than in the afternoon or evening. This allows the leaf blade to dry and reduces the risk of disease.

Let the turf determine watering frequency. Since heat, humidity and rainfall can vary, it's best to water at the first sign of stress.

Kentucky Bluegrass turf has poor drought tolerance in temperatures above 85 degrees and requires irrigation to survive during our long hot summers.

To reduce water runoff and to help water penetrate and soak into clay soils, use cycle and soak watering schedule. Instead of watering for a long period of time and allowing the water to runoff into the street, divide the total watering time per zone by 3. Water 3 shorter intervals (all in the same morning). For example, water once per week at 4am, 5am and 6am. For each cycle, water 15 minutes for rotor head and 8 minutes for pop-ups, and 30 minute for low volume heads. These times are averages. Water less in shaded areas.

Do not water every day. Frequent short watering encourages shallow roots, unhealthy grass plants and turf susceptible to drought, weeds and disease. Best to water every other day or every third day depending on age of turf, exposure to direct sunlight and hot temperatures.

Water newer trees using soaker hoses or direct hose drips once every couple of weeks in summer.

Learn how to use your sprinkler system and timer. When sprinkler technician turns on your sprinkler system learn how it is done so you can adjust timer and technician does not have to return to your house each time you want to change the cycles.