5 Easy Steps to Setting Your Irrigation Controller

1 Measure how much water per hour your sprinklers put out: place some tuna cans or other straight-sided containers around your lawn or throughout your planting beds, and run the sprinklers for 15 minutes. Average the depth of water in the cans and multiply by 4. This is your sprinkler output in inches per hour.

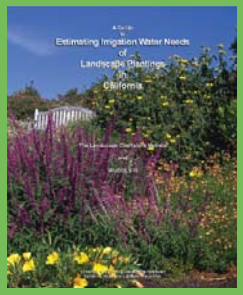
2 Look at the tables on the next pages. Find your region and the current month for your type of grass. It will show the total recommended minutes for watering each week for your sprinkler system's output in inches per hour. If the time is more than 15 minutes, divide it into 2, 3, or 4 waterings separated by a day or two.

3 Set the timer to turn on the sprinklers early in the morning and to run for the time needed. For example, if the chart indicates that you need to water for 45 minutes per week this month, set the timer to come on at 6:00 am for 15 minutes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. During the winter months, you can usually turn the system off, since the rainwater received by your lawn will be sufficient.

4 Look at your walkways during the first watering. If there is runoff from the lawn or beds that is not from overspray onto concrete, note how long the sprinklers run before the runoff occurs. This is the maximum time your system should run at one setting. If Step 2 determined that 15 minutes were needed each day, and runoff occurs at 8 minutes, then set your timer to come on for 7-8 minutes 2 times, or 5 minutes 3 times, with at least one hour between each watering.

5 To set the controller for your planting beds, determine which is the predominant plant in each area. Set the timer for those areas using the charts on back. If your main plant is not found on the back, use the free publication shown at the right:

http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/wucols00.pdf



Water Usage of Common Landscape Plants

Find your predominant plant below, and its water use classification. Consult the tables on the next two pages for your timer settings. If your plant is not listed below: Consult this online publication: **http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/wucols00.pdf**. **1)** Look on p.57 to find your region.
2) Look on p. 101 to find the official name of the plant if you only know the common name.
3) Look on pages 61-99 to find your plant's listing as Low, Medium, or High water use for your region.

PLANT NAME		WATER USE BY AREA		
COMMON	SCIENTIFIC	COASTAL	INLAND	DESERT:L-H
Abelia	*Abelia xgrandiflora*	M	M	N/A
African daisy	*Osteospermum fruticosa*	L	L	M-N/A
Azalea	*Rhododendron* (various species and hybrids)	M	H	N/A
Barberry	*Berberis thunbergii*	L	L	M-L
Begonia	*Begonia semperflorens*	M	M	M-N/A
Boxwood	*Buxus sempervirens* and hybrids	M	M	M
California lilac	*Ceanothus* (various species)	L	L	N/A-L
Camellia	*Camellia* (various species)	M	H-M	H-N/A
Cotoneaster	*Cotoneaster* (various species)	L-M	M	M
Coyote brush	*Baccharis pilularis*	L	L	N/A
Crape Myrtle	*Lagerstroemia indica*	M	M	M
Daylily	*Hemerocallis* hybrids	M	M	M
Escallonia	*Escallonia* hybrids	M	M	M-N/A
Euonymus	*Euonymus* (various species and hybrids)	M	M	M
Euryops	*Euryops pectinatus*	L-M	L-M	M
False heather	*Cuphea hyssopifolia*	M	M	N/A
Fountain Grass	*Pennisetum setaceum* ('Rubrum')	M	L	L
Fortnight lily, African iris	*Dietes* (various species and hybrids)	M	M	M-N/A
Gazania	*Gazania* hybrids	M	M	M
Heavenly bamboo	*Nandina domestica*	L	M	M
Hydrangea	*Hydrangea* (various species and hybrids)	M	M	H
Indian hawthorn	*Raphiolepsis indica*	M	M	M
Juniper	*Juniperus* (various species and hybrids)	L	L-M	L-M
Lantana	*Lantana camara, L. montevidensis,* hybrids	L	L	M-N/A
Lily-of-the-Nile	*Agapanthus praecox orientalis*	M	M	M-N/A
Mock Orange	*Pittosporum* (various species)	M	M	M
Myoporum	*Myoporum parvifolium*	L	L	M-N/A
New Zealand flax	*Phormium tenax*	L	M	M-N/A
Photinia	*Photinia fraseri*	M	M	M
Privet	*Ligustrum japonicum*	M	M	M
Rose	*Rosa* hybrids	M	M	H (some M)
Star Jasmine	*Trachelospermum jasminoides*	M	M	M
Verbena	*Verbena* hybrids	L-M	L-M	M-N/A
Viburnum	*Viburnum* (various species and hybrids)	M	M	M-N/A
Vinca	*Vinca minor* (*V. major* is considered invasive)	M	M	M

Watering Guide for Southern California

FOR YOUR LAWN: Find the table below for your region, cut it out, highlight the column for your sprinkler output, and hang it by your irrigation controller. If your lawn looks best in summer, use the warm season grass chart; if it looks best in late fall and early spring, use the cool-season grass chart. **FOR BEDS**: If your main plant is a HIGH water user, use the time for a cool-season grass; if MEDIUM, use the time for a warm season grass; if LOW, use ½ the time for a warm-season grass.

Region 9: Southern California Coast

Warm Season Grass					Cool Season Grass				
Minutes per week to water if your hourly sprinkler output is:					Minutes per week to water if your hourly sprinkler output is:				
	½ in	1 in	1 ½ in	2 in		½ in	1 in	1 ½ in	2 in
JAN	44	22	15	11	JAN	59	29	20	15
FEB	57	28	13	14	FEB	76	38	25	19
MAR	63	32	21	16	MAR	84	42	28	21
APR	76	38	25	19	APR	101	50	34	25
MAY	88	44	29	22	MAY	118	59	39	29
JUN	95	47	32	24	JUN	126	63	42	32
JUL	107	54	36	27	JUL	143	71	48	36
AUG	95	47	33	24	AUG	126	63	42	32
SEP	82	41	27	20	SEP	109	55	36	27
OCT	69	35	23	17	OCT	92	46	31	23
NOV	50	25	17	13	NOV	67	34	22	17
DEC	38	19	13	9	DEC	50	25	17	13

Region 10: Southern Inland Valleys

Warm Season Grass					Cool Season Grass				
Minutes per week to water if your hourly sprinkler output is:					Minutes per week to water if your hourly sprinkler output is:				
	½ in	1 in	1 ½ in	2 in		½ in	1 in	1 ½ in	2 in
JAN	42	21	14	10	JAN	42	21	14	11
FEB	57	28	19	14	FEB	75	38	25	19
MAR	80	40	27	20	MAR	106	53	35	27
APR	96	48	32	24	APR	128	64	43	32
MAY	119	60	40	29	MAY	159	80	53	40
JUN	144	72	48	36	JUN	193	96	64	48
JUL	165	83	55	41	JUL	221	110	74	55
AUG	155	77	52	39	AUG	207	103	69	52
SEP	124	62	41	31	SEP	165	82	55	41
OCT	88	44	29	22	OCT	117	59	39	29
NOV	54	27	18	14	NOV	73	36	24	18
DEC	42	21	14	10	DEC	55	28	19	14

Region11: Deserts

Warm Season Grass					Cool Season Grass				
Minutes per week to water if your hourly sprinkler output is:					Minutes per week to water if your hourly sprinkler output is:				
	½ in	1 in	1 ½ in	2 in		½ in	1 in	1 ½ in	2 in
JAN	54	27	18	14	JAN	65	32	22	17
FEB	75	38	25	19	FEB	90	46	30	23
MAR	121	61	40	30	MAR	145	73	48	36
APR	165	83	55	41	APR	198	100	66	49
MAY	211	106	70	53	MAY	253	127	84	64
JUN	243	121	81	61	JUN	292	145	97	73
JUL	251	126	84	63	JUL	301	151	101	76
AUG	218	109	73	54	AUG	262	131	88	65
SEP	180	90	60	45	SEP	216	108	72	54
OCT	121	61	40	30	OCT	145	73	48	36
NOV	69	35	23	17	NOV	83	42	28	20
DEC	43	22	14	11	DEC	52	26	17	13

For more detailed information, visit the
UC Guide to Healthy Lawns web site at:
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF
or view these free publications:

http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8044.pdf
http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/7227.pdf

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