

Watering Techniques

Factsheet

Well-established organic lawns are drought-tolerant. Established tall fescue lawns generally do not need to be watered –they will go dormant during hot dry periods and revive when cooler temperatures and rainfall return. Save water by irrigating according to need, rather than by a schedule. Lawns should be watered when they reflect drought stress in one of these ways: footprints remain for several minutes after walking across the lawn, or the grass develops a blue-green to blue-gray color.

During the summer months, water only in the morning. Water deeply –to a depth of 4-6 inches, as measured by a probe. Use a sprinkler that delivers large drops that will penetrate the soil, rather than one that creates a mist. More information about conserving water in lawn irrigation is available in University of Maryland Extension publication [TT-62: Irrigation and Water Conservation on Home Lawns](#).