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GARDENING IN GEORGIA

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Lawns

Sod - Watering New

The best time to water a lawn is in the morning, preferably before noon. This allows the grass to dry before nightfall, reducing the risk of disease. Take into account recent rainfall when deciding how much to apply.

Watering restrictions may impact how often you can irrigate. Check www.georgiadrought.com for the latest information. If restrictions mandate watering every other day, the schedules below may be modified to fit the rules.

How to measure the amount of water applied by irrigation:

- Place six identical containers randomly in the area wetted by your sprinkler.
- Plastic cups can be used but weight them down with a heavy washer in the bottom of each.
- Let your sprinkler run for an hour.
- Measure the depth of water that has accumulated in each cup.
- Calculate the average of the depths. This gives you the amount (in inches) that has been applied in an hour.
- Make a mental calculation of how long it will take to apply an inch of water.
- Don't be surprised if your sprinkler must run for more than an hour to apply the water your lawn needs.

WATERING NEW SOD

- One inch of water immediately after sod is laid.
- Apply enough water daily to prevent the top one inch of soil from drying until sod is rooted to the soil
- After that, apply one-fourth inch of water every third day for nine days.
- Next apply one-half inch of water every fifth day for ten days.
- After this establishment period, apply one inch of water per week for the rest of the growing season.
- There is no need to water if rainfall supplies the correct amount.

(use good judgment on the water amounts listed above. They may differ depending on what time of year you're planting in.)

- Use a trowel to check how far water soaks into the soil after irrigation.
- Heavy clay soil slowly absorbs water. If water runs off before it is absorbed, split the irrigation into two sessions an hour apart.
- Sandy soil absorbs water rapidly but dries out quickly. Consider splitting the recommended inch of water per week into two irrigations of one-half inch of water three days apart.

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Walter On TV and Radio

Find links, recipes and miscellaneous information Walter mentions on his [WSB radio show](#), and check out Walter's schedule for [TV appearances](#).

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Soil Conditions

[Click here](#) to check soil temperatures in your area.

Seasonal Calendar

Fertilize houseplants. They are getting much more light now and can use the food to grow bigger.

[View July Calendar](#)

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