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1 LEARN TO RECOGNIZE WILTING IN TURF PLANTS.

Symptoms include:

- Bluish cast on the leaf blades
- Footprints left on the lawn after you walk through it
- Rolled or folded leaf blades

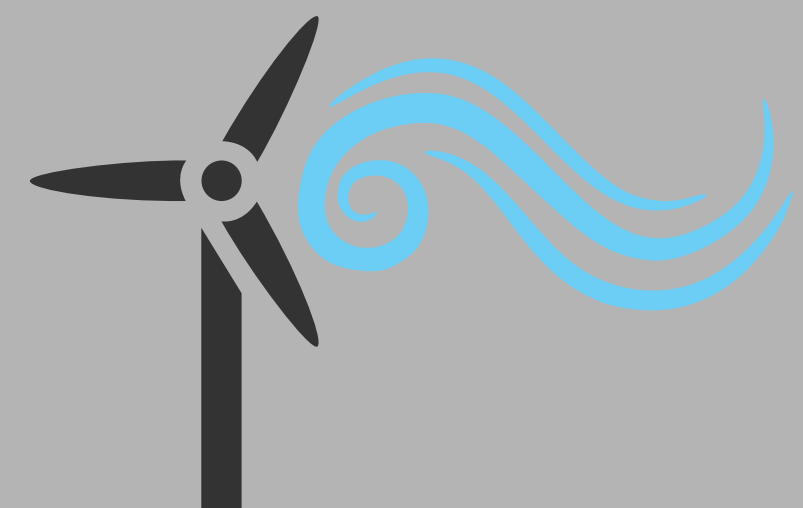
2 CHECK THE SOIL FOR ADEQUATE MOISTURE CONTENT

Push a screwdriver into the soil, pull it out and feel the blade. If the soil on it feels dry and powdery, moisture is needed. If mud clings to it, there is no need to water. If the screwdriver feels cool and moist, there is no need to water.



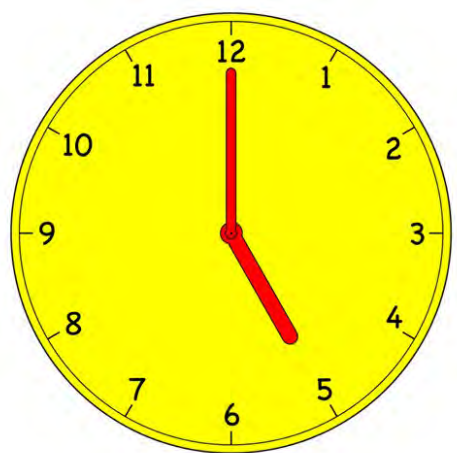
3 WATER TO THE BOTTOM OF THE ROOTS

For Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue plants, roots are shorter in summer and longer in spring and fall. Use a small shovel or trowel to check how far water has soaked in after watering.



4 AVOID WATERING ON WINDY DAYS

To reduce the amount lost due to wind movement

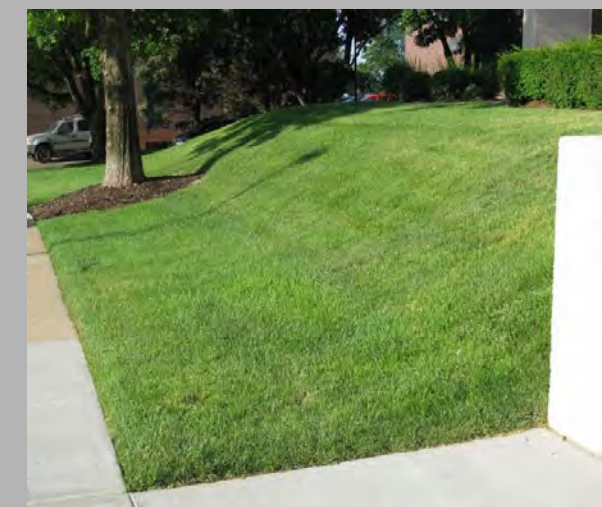


5 WATER IN THE EARLY MORNING, 4-8 AM

Benefits include reducing water lost to evaporation in heat and limiting the conditions that promote foliar diseases

6 ON SLOPES, USE DELAYED STARTS

Run the sprinklers until you notice runoff, stop and let the water soak in for a few hours, then restart the system.



7 AERATE BLUEGRASS AND TALL FESCUE LAWNS IN SPRING OR FALL TO INCREASE INFILTRATION CAPACITY



8

RETURN GRASS CLIPPINGS TO THE LAWN USING A RECYCLING TYPE MOWER TO CONSERVE MOISTURE



9

MOW LAWNS CORRECTLY TO CONSERVE MOISTURE

- Kentucky bluegrass lawns at 2 1/2 inches
- Tall fescue lawns at 3 1/2 inches



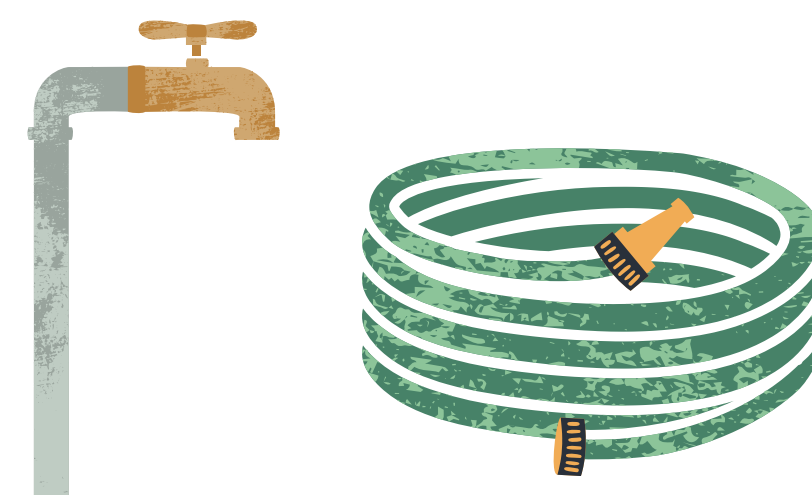
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CONSIDER ALLOWING KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS, ZOYSIA AND BUFFALOGRASS LAWNS TO GO DORMANT IN THE SUMMER

Irrigate dormant turf with light applications every 2-3 weeks to prevent death of the crowns.

11

CHECK HOSE CONNECTIONS FOR LEAKS AND REPAIR THEM AS NEEDED



12

MEASURE THE AMOUNT OF WATER APPLIED DURING A 30-MINUTE PERIOD

Use collection devices such as empty tuna or cat food cans. Adjust the run time to deliver the required amount. Change the run time seasonally and subtract any rainfall.

13

OBSERVE YOUR AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

Look for heads that operate incorrectly, spray the street or driveway, have damaged heads and clogged or worn nozzles. Make repairs as necessary.



14

ADJUST HEADS AS LANDSCAPE PLANTS GROW LARGER AND BEGIN TO BLOCK THE SPRAY PATTERN

New installations of benches, decks, etc. can also decrease irrigation efficiency.

