



Reviewing and upgrading your irrigation system can lead to better uniformity, resulting in water savings and a flourishing garden.

Proper maintenance and use of efficient irrigation systems are key principles in reducing irrigation requirements in any landscape area. Maintenance practices such as mulching and the right irrigation system can greatly impact the water efficiency of any landscape, as well as the landscape's ability to survive a dry season.

Tips and Practices That Can Save Water

- Check the sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only the desired area is watered.
- Water during the early morning hours when cooler temperatures and less wind minimize evaporation.
- Adding a rain sensor to the controller will eliminate unnecessary watering when it is raining.
- Use a drip system and water less frequently, creating healthier and stronger landscapes.
- Cover the drip system and plant area with mulch. Good mulch preserves soil moisture, prevents soil compaction, keeps soil temperatures more moderate, and reduces weed growth.
- Use of drip irrigation on trees, shrubs, flowerbeds, and vegetable gardens can help in reducing weed growth, saving water and helping the garden withstand a dry season.

The Benefits of Drip Irrigation

Drip irrigation (sometimes referred to as micro irrigation, low-flow irrigation, or trickle irrigation) is an irrigation method in which water is applied slowly and in precise amounts directly to the plant roots using low flow drip emitters. With proper irrigation schedules and selection of the correct drip emitters, drip irrigation can maintain an optimum moisture level in the soil - combining the proper balance of water and air. This will result in less water lost to evaporation, wind and runoff while enhancing deeper root zone development with better growth conditions in addition to minimizing weed growth.

