



SUMMER WATERING GUIDE

North Texas Lawn Watering Recommendations

Summer is the season your soil loses the most water the fastest. To keep your lawn healthy through the heat, each full-sun zone needs approximately one hour of water per week. Getting this wrong is one of the most common — and most costly — mistakes North Texas homeowners make.

Water in 10-minute bursts, twice per week at 2:00 AM, 4:00 AM, and 6:00 AM

That's 60 minutes per zone, per week — exactly what your lawn needs in North Texas summer heat.

Why early morning watering works:

Early morning cycles (2, 4, and 6 AM) are designed specifically for North Texas conditions. Watering at night risks disease. Watering midday wastes water to evaporation. These three cycles:

- Allow time for water to soak into our clay-heavy soil between cycles
- Minimize evaporation during cooler, calmer air
- Reduce wind drift onto driveways and sidewalks
- Encourage deeper root growth for drought resilience

Zone Type	Recommendation
Standard spray heads (full sun)	10 min per cycle × 3 cycles × 2 days = 60 min/week
Rotary head sprinklers	Run twice as long per cycle (15 min) — rotary heads deliver water more slowly
Shaded areas	Reduce by 50% or more. Heavy shade zones need significantly less water than full sun.
Drip systems	Run 10 min daily. Monitor bed moisture — drip output varies by system.

Pro tip: use your controller's Seasonal Adjust setting

Many modern sprinkler controllers include a "Seasonal Adjust" or "Water Budget" feature. Program your summer schedule at 100%, then dial down to ~50% in spring or fall. As temperatures climb, increase the percentage back toward 100%. You'll never have to reprogram each zone individually.

How to spot drought stress before it becomes damage

Most lawn problems we diagnose in summer come back to water. Here's what to watch for by grass type:

- **Bermuda grass:** Bermuda grass leaves will take on a purplish hue before the classic mottled green-and-brown pattern sets in. The patchwork appearance is especially common in parkways and areas where sprinkler heads don't cover as evenly. Left unaddressed, the brown expands as stress worsens.
- **St. Augustine grass:** St. Augustine has a seam that runs the length of the back of the blade. A healthy, well-watered blade stays open and flat. When it's not getting enough water, it folds along that seam. If you're seeing this folding in full-sun areas but the grass under your trees still looks fine, that's your confirmation — it's a watering issue, not a disease problem. St. Augustine doesn't bounce back from severe drought stress the way bermuda and zoysia can. Prolonged underwatering can kill it outright — which is why catching that blade fold early matters.
- **Zoysia:** Zoysia will still show stress when it's not getting enough water. Watch for browning at the blade tips. It will usually recover once watering is corrected, but prolonged stress weakens the root system heading into fall.

If you see any of these signs: (1) verify your controller is programmed to our summer schedule, and (2) test each zone for head coverage and valve function. Most of the time, the fix is a watering schedule adjustment, not a lawn treatment.

Questions? We're here.

If your lawn is showing stress and you're not sure whether it's a watering issue or something else, give us a call or send a text. We're a local team that's been serving North Texas since 1980.



call or text 972-495-6990