



**ATLANTIC**  
 NURSERY · GARDEN SHOP · LANDSCAPING  
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# Watering Guidelines

**Do not rely on your irrigation system to supply sufficient water to your newly installed plants for the first year.**

Until the roots grow beyond the umbrella of leaves, rain and irrigation systems often do not reach the root zone.

New plantings should be watered until the ground is frozen (usually middle November). If irrigation systems are shut off, you must continue to water by hose. Follow these guidelines in addition to your irrigation system to give your plants the proper start.

WHAT	WHEN	HOW
All plants	Prior to planting	Water thoroughly 3 times (5 minutes apart)
Hedge Rows / Privacy Screening		Best watered with a soaker hose (follow the times below)
Trees & Shrubs	At time of planting	A good soaking! Let hose trickle near trunk for ½ - 1 hour.*
	For first month	Let hose trickle for ½ - 1 hour, twice a week depending on the size of the plant.*
	After 1 month	Once a week, let hose trickle or use soaker hose for 1 - 2 hours.*
	After 1 year	Every 7 - 14 days with a soaker hose for 3 - 4 hours.*
Flowers & Vegetables	Before planting	Water all plants in flats or pots thoroughly.
	At time of planting	½" of water (about 1 - 2 hours with sprinkler)**
	For first 2 weeks	3 - 4 times a week. 1 - 1½" per application**
	After 2 weeks	In good garden soil, 1" of water per application, once a week. If soil is sandy, ¾" of water in an application, 2 times per week**
Lawns	Before planting	Water soil thoroughly to a depth of 6" - 8" (3 - 4 hours with a sprinkler).
Seed	Until grass is up (3 - 4 weeks)	Keep surface moist-sprinkle 3 - 4 times a day, then daily until established. (11 am, 1 pm, 3 pm for example)
	When grass is up	Daily until established or every other day as needed.
Sod	Newly planted	Water thoroughly to a depth of 6" - 8" (3 - 4 hours) prior to planting, then daily or as needed, until well rooted (about 14 days).
Established Lawns	As needed. (Without rainfall: every 4 - 7 days).	In good garden soil, 1" of water per application once a week (3 - 4 hours with an oscillating sprinkler). If the soil is sandy, ½" of water in an application, 2 times per week.

\*Hedges are best watered with a soaker hose.

\*\*Place a water gauge (tin can, jar) on the ground to measure the amount of water your system delivers.

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