

WATERWISE STREETSCAPE IRRIGATION

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS FOR REDUCING IRRIGATION OVERSPRAY AND RUN-OFF ALONG BEND STREETS



UTILITY DEPARTMENT

WATER CONSERVATION

The City of Bend Utility Department is actively working to reduce the amount of water wasted through inefficient irrigation practices. Often, the most inefficient area of an irrigation system is near or adjacent to city streets. When irrigated with overhead sprinklers, these areas often result in considerable overspray and runoff. Reducing or eliminating irrigation overspray and runoff in these areas will help stretch our existing water supplies further into the future, keep our watershed healthy, and preserve our streets.

Irrigation systems require routine maintenance to stay effective. Incorrect scheduling, tilted or broken sprinklers, excessive system pressure, compacted soils, or using the incorrect nozzle size or type all contribute to water waste if left unchecked.

IRRIGATION SCHEDULING

Schedule multiple irrigation cycles of short run times (4-6 minutes) to reduce irrigation runoff. Make changes seasonally using the controller's "Seasonal % Adjust" function to adjust for seasonal difference in plant water need.



TILTED/BLOCKED SPRINKLERS

As plant material matures in the landscape sprinkler patterns can become blocked. Sprinkler heads within lawn areas can easily become low, tilted, or blocked due to impacts from maintenance equipment, heavy traffic, or freeze/thaw cycles.



SPRINKLER PLACEMENT

Sprinklers placed in head to head coverage and set back 4-6 inches in from sidewalks, drives, and curbing will not result in insufficient coverage. Use check valves to eliminate seepage in low areas.



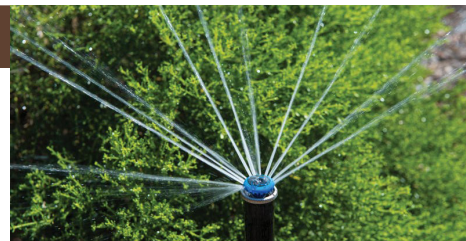
WATER PRESSURE

Excessive pressure causes water to atomize out of fixed spray sprinkler head at pressures greater than 40 psi. Use a pressure regulator, pressure regulating sprinklers, or pressure regulating fixed spray nozzles to reduce sprinkler misting.



NOZZLES

Use low precipitation rate nozzles when possible. Select a shorter radius nozzle instead of reducing the radius of any nozzle more than 10-15%. Check nozzles regularly for obstructions, changes in spray quality, and alignment.



CULTURAL PRACTICES

Aerate lawn areas annually to relieve compaction, improve water penetration and increase the lawn's water holding capacity. Use slow release or organic fertilizers to reduce fluctuations in heavy growth periods.



IF IT'S NOT WORKING - FIX IT

Lawns bring many ecological benefits along with cultural enjoyment to the urban environment. However squeezing a lawn into the challenging environment of a roadside street strip doesn't always make sense.

Transforming your existing street side landscape to an attractive WaterWise Streetscape will conserve water and be of benefit to the urban environment at the same time. These areas can easily be converted to drip irrigation, eliminating concerns over overspray and run-off onto city streets and into storm drains. Drip irrigation delivers water directly where the plant needs it the most and does not contribute to unwanted weed growth between plantings. For dense plantings, in-line drip can be utilized to provide even watering throughout the entire planting area.

StreetScape transformations can be as simple as a few perennial shrubs set as anchors for a small array of perennials and a groundcover or as detailed as a multi layered perennial garden providing showy displays of blooms and flowers throughout the growing season.



Get your
WaterWise Tips
Streetscape Guide
 today!

Call 541-317-3000, Opt. 2 or
 email conservation@bendoregon.gov.

URBAN MEADOW

Urban Meadow transformations offer seemingly endless combinations of perennials and flowers to choose from and require very little maintenance once established. The high planting density of these transformations usually requires in-line drip irrigation buried 3" to 6" below grade.

PLANT TYPE	SCIENTIFIC NAME	HEIGHT	SPREAD	ESD
DRYER LAYER	Yellow Dogwood	2'-3'	2'-3'	50%
	Silene sp.	3'-4'	2'-4'	50%
	Strawberry	4'-6'	4'-6'	50%
PERENNIAL LAYER	Doan's Umbrella	9'-10"	6'-10"	5'
	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
ANNUAL LAYER	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
GROUND COVER	Black-eyed Susan	3'-4'	3'-5'	50%
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Remember -
 Be **WaterWise** when it comes to irrigation

- No irrigation between 9:00 am and 5 pm.
- Make sure irrigation days are set to the City of Bend's Even/Odd day schedule.

For more outdoor water savings tips visit:

WaterWise Tips
 "Water isn't all you will save" .org

541-317-3000, Opt. 2
conservation@bendoregon.gov

Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities
 To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, or an electronic format, please contact the Utility Department at 541-317-3000, Opt. 2 or email utilities@bendoregon.gov.