

Irrigation Essentials
Irrigation Scheduling Recommendations for June 2009

San Jose, CA, Colorado Springs

Program A

Turf & Flowers	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	4	3	6 min.	72
Rotors/Impact	4	3	15 min.	180

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	3	8 min.	48
Rotors/Impact	3	3	15 min.	135

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	2	3	7 min.	42
Rotors/Impact	2	3	18 min.	108

Los Angeles, CA

Program A

Turf & Flowers	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	4	3	5 min.	60
Rotors/Impact	4	3	13 min.	156

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	3	5 min.	45
Rotors/Impact	3	3	13 min.	117

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	2	7 min.	42
Rotors/Impact	3	2	16 min.	96

San Diego/Atlanta/Nashville/Kissimmee

Program A

Turf & Flowers	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	3	7 min.	63
Rotors/Impact	3	3	16 min.	144

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	3	5 min.	45
Rotors/Impact	3	3	13 min.	117

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	2	6 min.	36
Rotors/Impact	3	2	15 min.	90

Dallas/Oklahoma City, OK

Program A

	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Turf & Flowers				
Spray Heads	4	3	6 min.	72
Rotors/Impact	4	3	15 min.	180

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover

Spray Heads	3	3	6 min.	54
Rotors/Impact	3	3	15 min.	135

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees

Spray Heads	3	2	8 min.	48
Rotors/Impact	3	2	19 min.	114

Palm Springs, CA

Program A

	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Turf & Flowers				
Spray Heads	4	3	8 min.	96
Rotors/Impact	4	3	19 min.	228

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover

Spray Heads	3	2	11 min.	66
Rotors/Impact	3	2	26 min.	156

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees

Spray Heads	3	2	10 min.	60
Rotors/Impact	3	2	24 min.	144

Las Vegas, NV/Phoenix, AZ

Program A

	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Turf & Flowers				
Spray Heads	4	3	9 min.	108
Rotors/Impact	4	3	22 min.	264

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover

Spray Heads	3	3	9 min.	81
Rotors/Impact	3	3	23 min.	207

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees

Spray Heads	3	2	11 min.	66
Rotors/Impact	3	2	27 min.	162

Houston/Little Rock

Program A

Turf & Flowers	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	4	3	6 min.	72
Rotors/Impact	4	3	15 min.	180

Program B

Shrubs & Ground/Cover	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	3	6 min.	54
Rotors/Impact	3	3	14 min.	126

Program C

Large Shrubs & Trees	Days On	Cycle Starts	Run Time	Min./Week
Spray Heads	3	2	7 min.	42
Rotors/Impact	3	2	18 min.	108

Notes & Recommendations

Do not irrigate (turf) on the day you are going to mow the turf. For my example schedule, Saturday is “mow day”.

To illustrate how to select “days on” to promote deeper rooting and for ease of future scheduling additions, the example schedule is as follows:

Program A

Days On: Monday/Wednesday/Sunday/Friday

Begin Cycle starts early, for example 2:00AM. Set approximately 45 – 60 minutes in between cycle starts – this is a “soak” period.

Cycle start times: 2:00AM, 3:00AM, 4:00AM

Program B

Days On: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday

Cycle start times: 5:00AM, 6:00AM, 7:00 AM

Program C

Days On: Monday/Tuesday/Saturday

Cycle start times: 8:00AM, 9:00AM

- 1. These schedules are a guide – local conditions may vary – it is critical that you monitor your landscape! The best way to do that is with a soil probe.***
- 2. The example schedule is set up to allow for the simple addition of “days on” and subsequent cycle starts to a peak use schedule in June-July. The minutes in the run times are calculated to mitigate run-off. The hope is to minimize the need to significantly alter the minutes, but increase and decrease amount applied by the addition of cycle starts/days on.*
- 3. These schedules are for established landscapes only.*

4. Add up the minutes in each cycle start and ensure start times on cycle starts do not overlap.
5. Deeper rooting is promoted by “back-to-back” irrigation (Sunday/Monday days on for example), followed by a drying period before the next irrigation. The hope is to create a larger soil moisture reservoir, as defined by the volume of soil the deeper roots define. This will help plants endure a drought condition.