

Properly Watering Trees

Fact Sheet

The Importance of Watering, Especially During Drought

All trees, even mature ones need water. Significant changes in climate patterns are affecting entire ecosystems. Our urban landscapes are not immune to these changes. In fact, trees in urban areas are more prone to drought damage and death than natural stands of trees. The best solution to help trees through a drought period is to water your trees! Trees that do not receive enough water are unable to create new growth. When this happens, root development is reduced and response to wounding is limited. As trees reach this stage, they start to shut down and become targets for diseases and insects that can kill them.

Note: If your tree recently had treatment services completed, it is especially important to water thoroughly once a week for optimal treatments results.

Recommended Watering Techniques

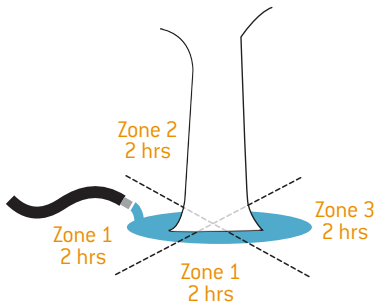
After multiple years of drought conditions trees need additional care to keep them healthy and strong. Watering is the most important way to help. Follow one of these 3 methods to keep your trees properly watered during drought conditions.

Repeat weekly during summer drought.

METHOD 1

GARDEN HOSE

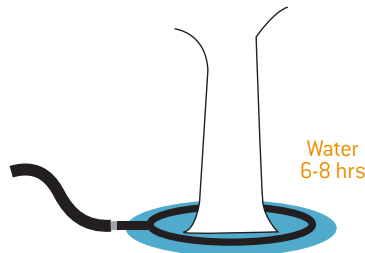
Set to trickle (more than a drip and less than a gurgle). Divide the tree area into 4 zones. Position the hose 2-3 feet from the trunk in Zone 1 and let water soak for 2 hours. Repeat for all sections.



METHOD 2

SOAKER HOSE

Wrap the hose around the base of the tree at least 1-2 feet from the trunk. Water 6-8 hours.

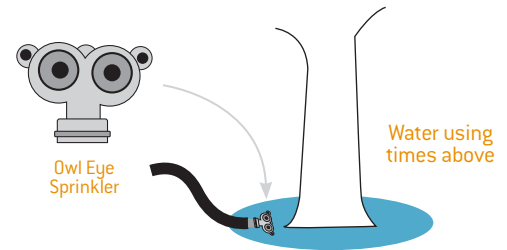


METHOD 3

OWL EYES SPRINKLER

Place under the tree about 2-3 feet from the base and water until soil feels moist, but not saturated.

- 15 minutes for a 10" diameter tree
- 20 minutes for a 15" diameter tree
- 30 minutes for a 20" or larger diameter tree



ADDITIONAL WAYS TO COMBAT DROUGHT:

• MULCH

Aids in retaining soil moisture

• GROWTH REGULATOR

Helps to reduce water loss during dry periods

• ROOT ENHANCEMENT

Improves roots to improve drought resiliency