

10 things to make your lawn more water efficient

So, you are not yet ready to give up your lawn. Here are some tips to make your irrigation system work much more efficiently

1. Water your lawn between midnight and 4 am.
2. Reduce the time by 10%. Check the lawn after 2 weeks. If ok, lower by another 10%.
3. Check your water pressure. Make sure your pressure is in the correct range for your sprinkler heads and valves. 30-40 psi is the typical. Add pressure regulators, if it's too high to eliminate misting.
4. Set your timers to cycle and soak. Instead of running the (old) sprinklers for 18 minutes, run them for 3 cycles of 5 minutes. Remember to adjust times over the summer.
5. Change your sprinkler heads to more efficient rotor or MP rotators. (Cal Water provides a free voucher program for Toro heads)
6. Set the timers for your new rotor heads for clay soil for 3 times 21 minutes. (Adjust times over the summer, as necessary)
7. Check for overspray and runoff and adjust your system.
8. Install a smart controller or at least add water sensors to your old meter so you don't water your lawn when it's raining. (Cal Water rebates both up to \$125)
9. Turn off the water after a rain.
10. Reduce the size of your lawn. If you don't actively use the entire lawn, cut back parts.