



Irrigation System Checklist

Visual Inspection

Sprinkler Heads:

- Check for broken sprinkler heads, as well as sprinkler or bubbler heads which are partially broken off.
- Look for sprinkler heads turned the wrong direction
- Bubblers too far from shrubs or plants causing an over-water condition for the water to reach the plant
- Dry spots. Dry spots should be addressed on a case-by-case basis, not by irrigation controller station. Often they are the result of a clogged sprinkler head.

Valves:

- Valves should be checked on a regular basis to ensure they are not leaking. Signs of leaking include roots, green moss, washed fine sand or standing water
- Roots that gather around irrigation heads, usually in planting areas signify leaking water. Could be the valve is not shutting off completely.

Leaks:

- Look for water seeping from irrigation heads when the valves are turned off.
- Fine grains of sand around an area indicate a leak
- Washed out areas where soil has been removed and washed away indicate a leak
- Discoloration of hardscape, blacktop, concrete, walls, etc usually indicates over-water and can be cured by replacing or adjusting heads

Time clocks:

- Ensure the "Rain Switch" is activated on your clock to avoid watering during or after a rain storm.
- Ensure clock is programmed to water after dark or early in the morning.
- Activate Cycle and Soak programming for sloped areas or adjust watering to compensate for sloped areas.

Signs of long-term problems:

- Look for overspray onto walks and streets or watering running in the gutter
- Green moss, mold or mushrooms around buildings, usually on the north side or northeast side signify too much water. Isolate these areas and readjust them time on the controller or the heads, possibly change the head design.