

## Helpful Tips

- 1 Avoid cutting your grass **too short**. Because longer grass loses water more slowly, consider raising your lawnmower blade slightly.
- 2 Take steps to **remove and prevent weeds** in your lawn. These greedy plants steal precious moisture from grass roots, making your lawn require more water.
- 3 Try **fertilizing** your lawn regularly. Grass that is well-nourished has an easier time holding onto water supplies and is better able to recover from drought.
- 4 You may be able to have a **precipitation sensor** installed on your automatic watering system. These keep the system from activating when it's raining.
- 5 It's recommended to have your lawn **aerated** annually. When you do this, water will more easily penetrate the soil instead of pooling or running off.

## Contact Information



Check us out on  
social media!

**Facebook-** High Plains Water District

**Twitter-** @HPUWCD

**YouTube-** High Plains UWCD

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Guide to Outdoor Watering

High Plains Underground Water Conservation District

# Know your grass

**Bermuda:** This grass is highly resistant to drought and enjoys full sun. It is also an aggressive grower. It can go for longer periods with little to no water.

**St. Augustine:** A popular grass, but very prone to pests and diseases that come with hot Texas summers. It also has very high water needs, which can be problematic when water restrictions are tight.

**Buffalo:** Another drought-tolerant variety, but it can become brown in mid and late summer if it is under-watered. However, as a Texas native, it is better able to bounce back from these dry periods.

**Zoysia:** This grass is very drought-resistant, and some cultivars can perform well in considerable shade. Zoysia will do fine with moderate to average watering.

**Fescue:** It is considered a drought tolerant grass, yet can develop diseases when receiving more water than needed. It grows well in the USA transition area; however, it needs to be watered when the weather is drier than usual due to the higher rate of evaporation.



## How much?

The length of time you need to spend watering your lawn is determined by which method of delivery you're using. Every kind of watering system, including sprinklers and hose nozzles, can put out water at varying rates.

Information courtesy of:  
<http://www.clemson.edu/extension>  
<http://www.justrightlawns.com/>

## How can you tell?

**Footprint Test:** Walk across your lawn late in the day and examine the grass behind you for footprints. If you leave footprints, it's time to water.

**Screwdriver Test:** Puncture a screwdriver into the lawn. If the screwdriver goes three to six inches into the soil fairly easily, you have watered efficiently.

**Sprinkler Gauge:** How much water are you putting out? Place a sprinkler gauge underneath your sprinkler head to get an accurate measurement.