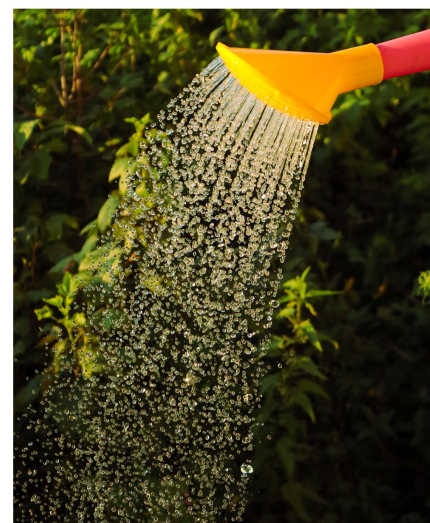


# How Do You Water Plants?



Most gardeners don't think of watering as an art, but if you've been around plants long enough, proper watering is definitely an art. Watering too much or too little can greatly decrease the health of a plant, and many times will kill them.



## Annuals

Annuals require 1 ½" of water a week. During establishment, plants may need to be watered daily. After the plant is established, annuals planted in the ground should be watered 1-2 times a week. Annuals planted in containers should plan on watering almost daily, depending on the size of the pot, sun exposure, and temperatures.

## Shrubs and Perennials

When planting perennials and shrubs, they should be watered heavily the day of planting. Continue watering every other day for the first week. Typically, we water them 1-2 gallons of water each watering, depending on size. If you are able to water by a hose, set the water speed at a slow trickle and allow it to run for 10 minutes. For the remainder of the season, water every 4-5 days at the same amount as above. However, check the plants daily and water more often if the soil has dried faster. Many plants will start to wilt mid-day from heat, but by feeling the soil, you will find they do not need watering. Do not overwater your plants. If the soil is still wet at time of next watering, delay watering so the top inch of soil has dried.

## Trees

Upon planting trees, water them heavily the first day. Continue to water every other day for the first week. Supply 4-6 (more if larger trees) gallons of water to each plant or a slow trickling hose for 30-45 minutes. After the first week, continue to water every 5-7 days at the same rate throughout the season. Check the plant in between watering to make sure the soil is not drying faster than normal. If the soil is still wet, delay watering until the soil has dried the first 2 inches.

- Water plants deeply and infrequently for deep root growth.
- Water with Fertilome Root Simulator after planting and for the first month once a week to promote root growth.
- Mulch around plants to help retain moisture and cool roots.
- Feel the soil between watering to determine if watering is needed.
- Water in the mornings to prevent disease.