



## **WATERING TREES, SHRUBS, AND PERENNIALS**

Watering your plants following planting is vital to their survival. Given ever changing weather conditions, there are no precise watering instructions. The following will however provide guidelines for watering.

Landscape Architecture, LLC will water plantings as they are planted. We will continue to water them as we work in your yard. Following the completion of our work, you will need to water. The first two weeks are critical. After planting is completed, please water every day during the first week. During the second week you can water every other day.

Similar to watering houseplants, you will need to determine if watering is required. The best method to determine if watering is required is to brush aside the hardwood mulch (or stone mulch) at the base of the plant and touch the soil. If the soil is moist, you do not need to water. If it is dry, watering is required.

### **THE FOLLOWING IS GENERALLY TRUE**

- Water more aggressively during the first two weeks.
  - The first week water daily with out testing the soil as described above.
  - The second week water every other day.
- Rain will reduce the amount of watering you need to do.
- Wind will increase the amount of watering you need to do.
- The higher the temperature, the more watering you need to do.
- Sandy soils will require more frequent watering than clay soils.



## HOW TO WATER

- Adjust the hose to low pressure to create a slow trickle. Place the hose over the plants roots (the root ball, or the soil from the plant pot).
  - Water smaller plants (spirea or rose) for a 1-2 minutes. When water has started to run away from the plant or puddle, you can stop.
  - Larger plants (evergreen trees and shade trees) will need the water to trickle for 10 to 15 minutes. Please move the hose around the plant every 3-5 minutes so the entire root zone gets water.
    - For Juneberry, Serviceberry, or Amelanchier, please water for no more than 5 minutes. If you are also watering a new lawn near these plants, only water the root ball with a hose every other day during the first week and every third day during the second week.
    - Evergreens and shade trees that are planted in lawn areas that are being watered will also require watering for only 5 minutes every other day during the first week and every third day during the second week.
  - Plants planted with a tree spade should be watered heavily for the first few days. Please allow the hose to trickle water on the root ball an hour each day for the first week.
- A root feeder is beneficial for watering larger plants. Root feeders are available at most hardware stores.
- It is important to allow the soil to dry very slightly between waterings. A constantly soggy wet soil deprives the roots of needed oxygen and will drown the plant.
- The length of time for watering and the frequency of watering should be adjusted depending on temperature, wind, and rain as outlined above.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call Landscape Architecture, LLC at 608-798-1840 or email us at [info@landscapearc.com](mailto:info@landscapearc.com).