

Got a Case of the Mondays?

“The Watering Recommendations are great, but my watering day is Monday! How can I take advantage of this information with a Monday watering day?”

Frisco’s goal is to ensure that the watering recommendations reflect actual weather conditions as accurately as possible. To accomplish this, our weekly recommendations are based on evapotranspiration (ET) calculations from the city’s own weather station and associated rain gauges, beginning with ET readings from the previous Monday and ending with readings from the Sunday evenings before the recommendation is offered. This grants a short timeline for WaterWise to turn the calculation around city-wide.

For Monday waterers, this means you may leave home in the morning prior to the recommendations being offered for that week, but have no fear! You should have no difficulty with achieving a 0.25" or 0.50" water recommendation in one evening (after 6:00 p.m.) Set your controller’s schedule to water after 6:00 pm, then turn the system off when leaving in the morning. If watering is recommended, turn the system on when you arrive home and allow the system to **cycle** in the evening. Otherwise, leave your system off!

To read more about these calculations and how to use the weekly recommendation to adjust your sprinkler runtimes, visit <http://www.friscotexas.gov/1161/Watering-Wisely>. You’ll find that we typically suggest operating a zone with spray heads for 6 minutes per zone. For watering recommendations in amounts larger than 0.50 inches (such as a 0.75 inch recommendation, which may occur on occasion in exceedingly hot July and August months), two days of watering will be permitted as described in the [Watering Schedule Map](#).

“But what about fungal growth?”

Fungal growth is not caused by the time of day the water is applied, but rather extended periods of time of sodden, damp conditions (**over-watering!**). When excess water is applied in the morning, the water does evaporate quickly once the sun rises, but it is not used by your landscape – wasting water and money. Watering in the evening reduces evaporation, and allows water more time to infiltrate the soil where it can be taken up by plant roots. This means you can water *less*, and benefit *more* from the water you apply. Keep in mind, Mother Nature waters regularly at night!

Want to spot check your landscape for soil moisture conditions? Stop by Frisco’s [Public Works Department](#) to pick up a free soil moisture meter. Office hours are from 8am-5pm, Monday through Friday.

For help in adjusting your sprinkler controller to a Monday watering day, sprinkler checkups are available with one of our licensed irrigators. To schedule your appointment, call 972-292-5800 or send us an [e-mail](#).

