

# **30-Day Establishment Schedule for New Lawns**

Save water and money when you follow this 30-day sod establishment schedule developed by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences for central Florida lawns.

Number of Days Since Installing New Sod	On Day 1	On Day 2 to Day 10 On Day 11 to Day 15		On Day 16 to Day 30		
Write in your start date	Example: March 1	Example: March 2 to March 10	Example: March 11 to March 15	Example: March 16 to March 30		
Number of Watering Cycles Per Day	Three	Two	One	One		
General Guidelines	Water three times on the first day at six- hour intervals. First application occurs immediately following sod installation.	Increase run time as indicated below. Water two times per day, once before 8am and once after 6pm, 12 hours apart.	Increase run time as indicated below. Water one time per day, either before 8am or after 6pm.	Increase run time as indicated below. Water one time per day, either before 8am or after 6pm.		
Run Times						
For Fixed Spray	6 minutes	8 minutes	16 minutes	20 minutes		
For Rotors	18 minutes	24 minutes	48 minutes	60 minutes		
When to Water	Upon Installation	Before 8am and after 6pm. The City of Tampa Water Use Restrictions prohibits watering between 8am and 6pm.				

**After 30 days:** Follow the City's Water Use Restrictions ordinance to avoid potential fines. Allowed watering days vary depending on your house address. Learn more at tampa.gov/WaterRestrictions.



# **Recommended Seasonal Run Times**

Established lawns should follow the recommended seasonal run times listed below.

Type of Sprinkler Head	Setting	Summer June-Aug	Fall Sept-Nov	Winter Dec-Feb	Spring March-May
Fixed Spray Head	Ideal	25 minutes	15 minutes	<10 minutes	20 minutes
Rotor Head	Ideal	45 minutes	30 minutes	<10 minutes	40 minutes

Source: Home Irrigation and Landscape Combinations for Water Conservation in Florida, UF/IFAS Publication #ABE 355.

### **General Assumptions**

These recommendations assume an application rate of 1.5 inches of water per hour for fixed spray heads and 0.5 inches of water per hour for rotor heads.

When used to establish 5,000 sq. ft. of sod, the estimated amount of water used over a 30-day establishment period is 31,306 gallons or 41.8 ccf (hundred cubic feet).

#### Avoid A Fine!

Keep your receipts and notify our restriction enforcement team that you're establishing new sod: savewater@tampa.gov.

## Take Advantage of the Rain Rain is an irrigation event! Install a rain sensor and skip the next irrigation event when

it rains ½-inch or more.

Need a rain sensor or a rain gauge? City of Tampa Utility customers can request free water saving devices by emailing their account number and service address to savewater@tampa.gov.



**Water Department**