

# Misconceptions

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**WHAT DO YOU THINK?!!**



# Irrigation and Water Management

## **Misconceptions**

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- **The best time to water turfgrass is in the early morning.**
- This depends upon the watering window that is available at the facility. If there are many zones to be irrigated, then watering might need to start around 9:00 pm and go until early morning. Also, if pressure is an issue, remember that we use the most water in the early mornings (for wakeup prep) and early evening (dinner prep), so irrigating at that time is not recommended.

# Irrigation and Water Management

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- **Using a hose saves more water than an automatic irrigation system.**
  - With today's equipment, there are Smart Controllers that help determine the correct amount of water to be applied. And, with a hose, there is not guarantee of uniformity, whereas with sprinklers and efficient nozzle selections, Distribution Uniformity is a given.

# Irrigation and Water Management

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- I need to run my full circle heads the same amount of time as my part circle heads on field, even though they are on separate zones.
  - Only if the nozzles in the part circle heads have half as much water coming out of them. Vice versa with the full circle heads. If they have the same nozzles throughout, the full circle heads have to run twice as long as the part circle sprinklers.

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- I can get by with inline drains in my irrigation lines, even though I'm in a cold climate.
  - No, the best method is to winterize a system with air compressors. The blow out method utilizes an air compressor with a **Cubic Foot per Minute (CFM)** rating of 80-100 for any mainline of 2" or less. Never exceed 80 CFM when winterizing a system! Make sure you turn your controller to the "off" position when done.

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## **Misconceptions**

- If I have a broken electrical valve wire in my system, I am SOL until I can get it fixed. No more watering!!
    - Battery operated controllers are life savers when it comes to this type of situation. You can change the solenoid to a DC and then schedule the same runtimes on the battery operated unit.
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- I don't have to irrigate nor have a water source on my synthetic turf fields.
  - Cleaning and cooling; depending upon region
  - Water source needs to be large enough to accompany flow and pressure
  - Quick Couplers

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## **Misconceptions**

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- There are no water conserving products to help me meet my water agency requirements to save water when I irrigate.
  - Check valves
  - SMART controllers
  - Pressure regulation – risers and valves
  - Sensors – rain; freeze; flow; wind
  - EPA WaterSense Partnership



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- An irrigation system “audit” is unnecessary to help me with my brown circles on my field
  - An irrigation audit helps determine the uniformity of the application of water from the sprinklers.
  - It helps justify the cost/ ROI of a renovation due to poor DU
  - Helps determine the actual precipitation rate
  - Helps to update the existing poor quality install and maintenance of system