

The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Pulaski County partnered with Central Arkansas Water (CAW) in an effort to lower peak day demand on water structure and to lessen the daily usage of water.

The Sprinkler Smart Program will help you find tips to save money by reducing outdoor water consumption.

You can learn more about how to adjust your sprinkler system properly, the best times to water, how much to water, and what type of landscaping is best for your yard.

Check out these websites:

www.uaex.edu/environment-nature/water/default.aspx

www.carkw.com/conservation/wise-water-usage/tips-for-outdoor-water-conservation/

www.epa.gov/watersense/

For more information contact:

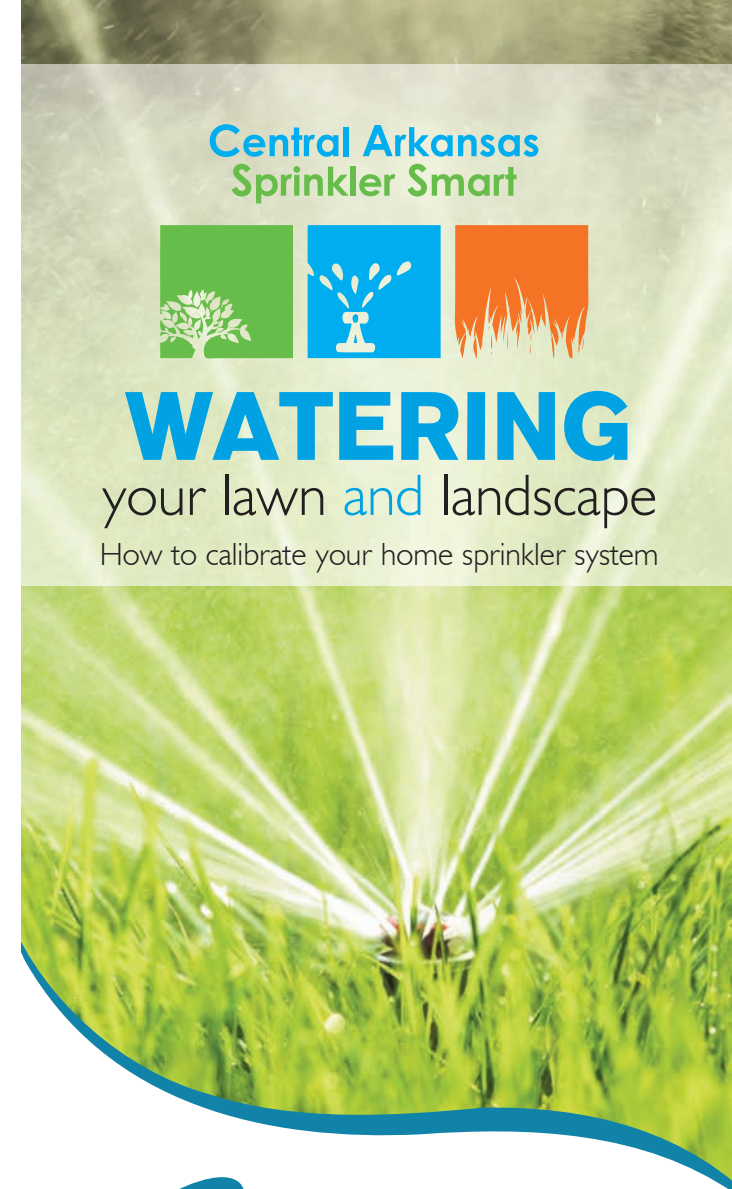
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Printed by University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Printing Services.

United States Department of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, and County Governments Cooperating

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How efficient is my sprinkler system?

Knowing the amount of water your sprinkler system applies to your lawn or landscape is an important step in efficient water use.

- 1 Collect **8-10** clean, short cans (tuna or cat food cans are ideal).



- 2 On a non-windy day, set these cans within a zone. Scatter the cans out throughout the coverage of the zone.

- 3 Irrigate the zones for 20 minutes.
Note: Run system during normal weather conditions

- 4 After 20 minutes, measure amount in each can with a ruler to nearest 1/4 inch.



- 5 Add up each can, then divide by the number of containers used to get average.
- 6 Multiply average by 3 to get “inches per hour” of irrigation.
- 7 Repeat these steps for every zone on the system.
Note: If you have cans within the zone that have a big difference in water amount then you could possibly have skips in sprinkler head coverage, which could lead to dry spots in your lawn or landscape.
- 8 After you know the inches per hour you can adjust to water the proper amount for your lawn or landscape.

- 9 Divide the application into two or three times to avoid water runoff. For example, if your system runs at one inch/hour, you would make two applications of 30 minutes each to apply one inch per week.



Further Water Saving Tips:

- Install a rain sensor on your irrigation system
- Don't water hardscapes (sidewalks, etc.)
- Fix or replace broken sprinkler heads
- Use a rain gauge to measure precipitation
- Adjust your irrigation system with the season
- Check for water leaks
- Water deeply and let soil dry out between watering
- Capture downspout water with a rain barrel and use to water containers and the garden
- Send downspout water into the garden instead of the street
- Use mulch because it helps reduce moisture loss by evaporation and can also help with weed control

