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Lawn Watering Conservation and Management Newsletter



PROFESSIONAL



Teaching an old irrigation system some new tricks

Update your irrigation system for greater efficiency.

Saving water is in every homeowner's best interest. You save money and help conserve the local water supply at the same time. Just because you have an old irrigation system installed in your yard doesn't mean that you can't update it to take advantage of the newest, most efficient technology. Your irrigation contractor can tell you what components are best suited to your system and offer the greatest benefit.

Here is a quick look at a few of the options offered by the Irrigation Association in recognition of Smart Irrigation Month in July:

- **Add "smart" technology.** Smart technology refers to irrigation devices that can adjust your watering schedule without direct input from you. Climate-based controllers that adjust watering schedules based on weather conditions and plant information can have a profound impact on your water usage. Find out more about smart technology at: www.irrigation.org/swat/homeowners.

- **Install a centralized irrigation controller.**

Typically used on golf courses, these systems are finding their way into more residential and commercial applications, especially for large lawns where water is expensive.

With just a few computer keystrokes or by remote control, the user can reprogram controllers in multiple locations. Plus, watering schedules can be saved and re-used with ease.

- **Have a rain sensor installed.** Low-cost, excellent value! This device can be added to almost any system and will

automatically override the system settings to prevent watering when it rains. They are inexpensive, simple to install, and they save water and money.

- **Add a pressure regulator.** Incorrect water pressure can cause conditions such as "misting." Misting occurs when water is turned to vapor rather than droplets at the sprinkler from too much water pressure. Most of the misted water is blown away. While a pressure regulator may not help your neighbor's lawn, having one installed by a qualified contractor could do wonders for yours.

- **Install micro-irrigation.** Some of your old sprinklers may be replaceable with micro or drip irrigation components. Your irrigation professional can tell you if micro irrigation is suitable for any of your existing irrigation zones. The water savings from switching may be substantial. Micro irrigation works well in gardens and around trees and shrubs and minimizes evaporative water loss and runoff. Other relatively inexpensive upgrades include installing check valves on the sprinkler lines and adding matched precipitation rate nozzles.

- **Check valves installed** on slopes prevent water from draining downhill and flooding around the lower sprinklers. **Installing matched precipitation rate nozzles** can save water by ensuring uniform water application in every zone. These nozzles are engineered to deliver water at the same rate, no matter what the pattern. Therefore, a zone that has full-circle patterns mixed with partial-circle patterns will be watered evenly, reducing wasteful overwatering.

Get over the dog-days of summer by calling us today for ideas on how to save water, save money and see better results.



Christmas in July?

Santa is back for this premier sales event.

It's hot outside and you're longing for some relief from the heat, aren't you? What a great time to be thinking about winter and maybe even those snowy nights and Christmas celebrations.

Well, you can't actually change the season now, but the closest you can get to doing so is to reduce the time left for Christmas and celebrate it now. That's what many are doing year after year. Christmas in the summer is your opportunity to take advantage of the great savings (up to 20% off) offered by Christmas Décor.

Call today to schedule a free consultation to turn your home into a "Winter Wonder-

land" this upcoming decorating season, while you yearn for the coolness of winter amid the scorching summer months.

The lighting program of your choice will be installed during November prior to Christmas.



Landscaping lighting "highlights" your landscaping *Total solutions for accenting home exteriors, decks and pathways.*

One of Emerald Lawns' alternative services include professionally installed low voltage outdoor lighting to accentuate your yard's features and landscaping at night. Homeowners can enjoy more time outside and create an elegant atmosphere for outdoor entertaining.

Outdoor lighting for the home used to be simple, a few light fixtures from the local home improvement store placed around the home, and you thought you were done. Unfortunately, those fixtures rapidly deteriorated over time. Today, homeowners have seen the quality and the difference professionally installed, low voltage outdoor lighting can provide.

Professional landscape lighting uses an array of special "Lighting Techniques" that not only enhance the beauty of the outdoors at night but foster outdoor safety and security. Outdoor lighting

gently adorns your house, yard and garden areas with soft accent lighting to create warmth, atmosphere, ambiance and safety that you, your family and friends will enjoy all evening long.

We use Kichler Landscape Lighting products which offer one of the widest ranges of landscape lighting solutions available today. Our products are backed by premium warranties with architectural grade materials and finishes. Tough and long lasting.

A new versatile LED accent light with a surprising punch of warm white light is perfectly suited to operate alone or blend with halogen and xenon. This LED has more than four times the lifetime of these other sources. Call us to give you some solutions for accenting your landscapes, with a wide variety of designer styles in decorative lighting at 1-800-SWITCH2.



A professionally designed and installed outdoor lighting system does more than highlights, but adds safety along a lit walkway or dock.



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