Save Our Shade

A Guide to Tree Care in a Dry Climate

Tree roots can spread out 2 to 3 times the height of the tree. Water should be applied at the drip line (where the branches end) or beyond when possible.

Water deeply and slowly to moisten the soil to a depth of 12 to 18 inches.

Apply water regularly during peak summer months (June, July, and August) in order to minimize or avoid stress.

Water newly planted trees twice a week

Water small trees (1 to 3 inches in diameter) twice a week

Water medium trees (4 to 8 inches in diameter) three times a month

Water large trees (10+ inches in diameter) twice a month

Apply between 5 and 10 gallons of water for every one-inch of trunk diameter, measured 4.5 feet from ground. Actual amounts vary with tree species and tree location.

Notes

In cooler weather, water the same amount but increase the number of days between watering.

The quantity of water a tree needs will vary with type, age, and location in your garden. Trees exposed to wind or surrounded by concrete may require more water than trees surrounded by mulch or other plants.

Tips for all Garden Plants

Water perennials at the drip line and away from the base, to prevent crown rot.

Overhead watering encourages leaf spot and other leaf diseases so try to water with soaker hoses or drip lines.

Water deeply and slowly to moisten soil to a depth of 8 to 12 inches.

Newly planted perennials ought to be checked daily, but will typically need water once every 2 to 4 days for the first few weeks.

Water needs for established perennials will vary with variety, from once a week to once a month, to only when it’s particularly dry.

Water shrubs at the drip line, away from the base, to prevent crown rot.

Water deeply and slowly to moisten the soil to a depth of 8 to 12 inches.

Apply about 5 gallons of water per foot of plant height each application.

Apply water regularly during peak summer months (June, July, and August) in order to minimize or avoid stress, but don’t over-water.

Check newly planted shrubs daily, and water when soil is dry two inches down.

Water needs for established shrubs will vary with variety, from once a week to once a month, or even less often. Check the Salt Lake City Plant List for suggested watering schedules at www.slcsaveh2o.com.

Apply water regularly during peak summer months (June, July, and August) in order to minimize or avoid stress.

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The quantity of water a tree needs will vary with type, age, and location in your garden. Trees exposed to wind or surrounded by concrete may require more water than trees surrounded by mulch or other plants.

Note: in cooler weather, water the same amount as in summer, but increase the number of days between watering.