

# Irrigation Maintenance Checklist

This checklist is intended as general guidance. Always work within your abilities and consult a professional for any plumbing or irrigation concerns. Western Water is not liable for any outcomes resulting from the use of this checklist.

## GENERAL INSPECTION

- Check for leaks by looking for pooling water, wet spots, or broken pipes.
- Inspect valves for leaks and necessary repairs.
- Ensure irrigation controller is set to the correct time and schedule for seasonal needs.

## SPRINKLERS

- Inspect sprinklers for clogs, damage, and proper pop-up and retraction.
- Check for proper sprinkler alignment to ensure it sprays the intended area and avoids overspray onto sidewalks, driveways, or streets.
- Verify proper water pressure by sprinkler type:
  - Rotary Sprinklers: 30-50 psi
  - Pop-up Sprayers: 20-30 psi
  - Drip Irrigation: 15-25 psi
- Perform a coverage test by placing small, uniform size containers in the yard to check if water is evenly distributed.

## DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM

- Inspect emitters and tubing for clogs, damage, or missing parts.
- Check for proper sprinkler alignment to ensure it sprays the intended area and avoids any sidewalks, driveways, or streets.
- Verify proper water pressure by sprinkler type:
  - Rotary Sprinklers: 30-50 psi
  - Pop-up Sprayers: 20-30 psi

## ZONE TESTING

- Run each irrigation zone and check that all sprinklers or emitters are working properly.
- Watch for weak water flow, which may indicate low water pressure or clogs.
- Ensure each zone's watering time is accurately set.



## MAINTENANCE

- Replace any broken or missing sprinklers, nozzles, or drip emitters.
- Consider upgrading to high-efficiency nozzles or a weather-based irrigation controller, which adjusts watering based on real-time weather conditions.

## MONITOR LANDSCAPE HEALTH

- Refer to Western Water's Irrigation Guidelines to ensure irrigation schedules support healthy plant growth.
- Avoid overwatering by watching for signs like runoff, pooling on sidewalks or driveways, or fungus growth in your yard.
- If runoff occurs, shorten watering times or use the cycle-and-soak method (watering in short intervals with breaks in between).

## IRRIGATION GUIDELINES



To review recommended watering times for various plant types and irrigation methods that support efficient outdoor water use, scan the QR code or visit [WesternWaterCA.gov/IrrigationGuidelines](https://WesternWaterCA.gov/IrrigationGuidelines).