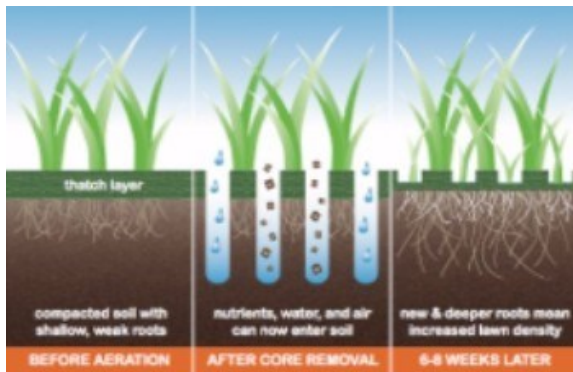




The warm weather is here and we are gearing up for the 2021 growing season! The key to having a lush, green, and vigorous lawn may be accomplished by many different practices. These include mowing, fertilizing, weed control, aeration, and especially proper watering in our sweltering South Carolina heat.



## It's Time for Core Aeration

The main reason for core aeration is to alleviate soil compaction. This will allow air and water to reach the grass roots. This enhances oxygen levels in the soil, stimulating root growth and enhancing the activity of thatch-decomposing organisms.

**Listed below are a few watering guidelines from Clemson University that can have a positive impact on your yard.**

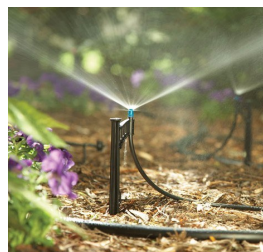
**Spring watering should be done 2-3 times a week**



**Spray Heads**  
10-20 min per zone



**Rotary Heads / Steam**  
25-35 min per zone



**Drip Irrigation**  
60 min per zone

### Helpful Watering Tips:

- The best time to start watering is in the early morning. By doing so, you will prevent the spread of diseases and grass blades will dry off quickly. Damp grass can encourage fungus spores to develop which will infect the leaf tissue
- Do not water using a small amount of water every day. This will only cause shallow roots to develop, making your lawn less drought tolerant.
- NEVER WATER EVERY DAY UNLESS LAWN IS NEWLY SEEDED, SODDED, OR SPRIGGED.
- Try to stretch out watering as long as possible to encourage deep root development. For example, set your irrigation system to water Monday and Friday.
- Once watering begins, it must continue or your lawn will break dormancy, and injury to your lawn could occur.

## Irrigation — What are the signs that your lawn needs water?

1. The Color Test—when water is not available for long periods of time, the grass will exhibit a bluish-gray cast.
2. Foot Printing — If walking across your lawn in the late afternoon leaves footprints, this is caused by the grass's inability to spring back up due to the lack of water in the tissue.
3. Leaf Check — Do the leaves on your grass appear wilted, rolled, or folded during dry periods? These are signs that the grass needs to be watered to prevent it from turning brown and going dormant.
4. Screwdriver Test — Try to press a screwdriver into the ground after a prolonged dry period. If it is very difficult to push it into the dry ground, this indicates the need for watering.

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