

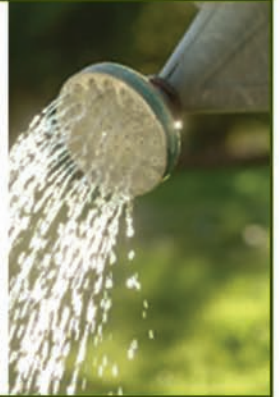
# Ask An Arborist™

## Quick Reference: Water

### Tree Essentials: Can't live without it!

A tree needs water deeply and infrequently in order to survive. There's no way around it. Unlike grass, which is able to recover quickly from drought conditions, a tree needs a consistent source of water to maintain life.

The method of watering allows many options. A watering probe stuck 5" - 6" into the soil is ideal (this bypasses grass roots and prevents run-off). Drip irrigation is a great option, too. You can even use a plain-old garden hose placed in the mulch ring at the base of the tree with the water set at just a little bit more than a trickle. Regardless of the method, the amount of water depends on the type and size of the tree. We suggest a simple rule: turn on the water, go inside, complete a task, then move the water to the next tree. In other words, leave the water in place for 20, 30, or even 60 minutes, in accordance with the size of the tree.



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