

Waterfacts 5

Irrigation controllers.

One of the most important components of an in-ground irrigation system is the irrigation controller. An automatic irrigation controller regulates the frequency, duration and start time for each watering. The key to effective and efficient watering is selecting a controller that has the greatest flexibility to handle different landscape and weather conditions and proper scheduling. The right controller, properly set, can result in water savings, lower water bills and healthier landscaping.

Do your part. Every drop counts!

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The content of this fact sheet was reviewed for accuracy by an irrigation professional and a landscape designer.



50% post-consumer waste

For the most efficient results you should ensure that the controller you choose has these water efficiency features:

- Multiple independent programs especially useful for compliance to the CRD watering schedules
- · Station run times from one up to 200 minutes in one minute increments
- Multiple start times per program
- Water budgeting/seasonal adjust feature
- · 365 day calendar, adjusting for leap year
- Non-volatile memory or battery back-up in case of power failure
- "Off", "Auto", and "Manual" operation modes
- Capability to add a rain shut-off device or moisture sensor.

Maintenance

As with the rest of your irrigation system, controllers need to be maintained. A controller system needs to be started up in the spring, with the controller adjusted for the changing rainfall months, then winterized to avoid freezing and breakage of the irrigation system.

Controllers are only as effective as their settings. You control the controller. Remember to adjust settings on a regular basis depending on weather. If you would like to learn more about controller scheduling call CRD Water Services and register for an IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS SCHEDULING workshop.



