

Management Steps for Better Water Use

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1. Mowing Practices—Lowering the mowing height reduces the efficiency of water utilization. As the height of mowing is lowered the number of roots produced and the depth of the root system is reduced. Higher mowed grasses actually have greater water use rates than low cut grasses but the loss is uptake of water because of poorer root systems more than overrides any advantages of lower mowing. Infrequent mowings also reduces the efficiency of water utilization for the same reasons. The use of a dull or improperly adjusted mower will increase the water use rate of grasses.
2. Irrigation Practices—Excessive watering of grasses result in a poor root system, increases the water use rate, and decreases water absorption by the plant.
3. Fertility Level — Excessive nitrogen fertilization of turfgrasses stimulates top growth, reduces root growth, increases the water use rate and lowers turf quality.
4. Turfgrass Pests — Turfgrasses injured by disease or insects will have higher water use rates than healthy grasses.
5. Traffic — Grasses worn by traffic have higher water use rates. Traffic should be managed whenever possible to prevent concentration of traffic.
6. Soil Aeration—Grasses grown on poorly aerated soil are inefficient in water utilization. Several management factors mentioned above effect soil aeration. Good management along with the use of mechanical devices for soil aeration will improve water use efficiency.

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A CHANGE IN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the March Board Meeting two membership classification changes were read and are being published here in accordance with our by laws. Unless written objection is received within 30 days after publication, these men will become active members with their requested classification.
 Wayne Evans.....Class E to Class B
 Kenneth BraunClass H to Class D

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