

Inspecting Your Irrigation System

- On your irrigation day, manually start your irrigation system for each zone to check for leaks, broken pipes, damaged or tilted sprinkler heads, blocked sprinkler patterns and over-spray onto impermeable surfaces such as roads and sidewalks.
- Check for soft, wet spots that are around sprinkler heads. If consistent, these spots could indicate a leak that is being absorbed into the ground. Contact your irrigation maintenance specialist if repairs are needed.
- Look for dry spots. They are a sign of one of the following: the sprinklers may be placed too far apart; the water pressure is low; sprinkler patterns may be blocked by overgrown grass; shrubs or low-hanging limbs may be blocking the sprinklers; or the screens inside the sprinklers are clogged.
- Look for signs of overwatering including runoff, pale light green/yellow tint to lawn, mushy feeling when you walk on lawn, moss in plant beds and/or on trees, mushrooms, and dollarweed. Overwatering may be caused by overlap from multiple (more than 2) sprinklers, duration, or number of irrigation events.
- Adjust, move or add sprinkler heads if your current sprinklers do not throw water 80 to 100 percent of the distance to the adjacent sprinkler. This is known as head-to-head coverage and is essential to irrigation system efficiency.
- Turf & non-turf areas should be on separate zones.
- Look for signs of excessive mist from sprays which could indicate excessive water pressure or a dirty filter.

More information about irrigation systems is available from [SJRWMD](#) & [UF/IFAS](#).

