

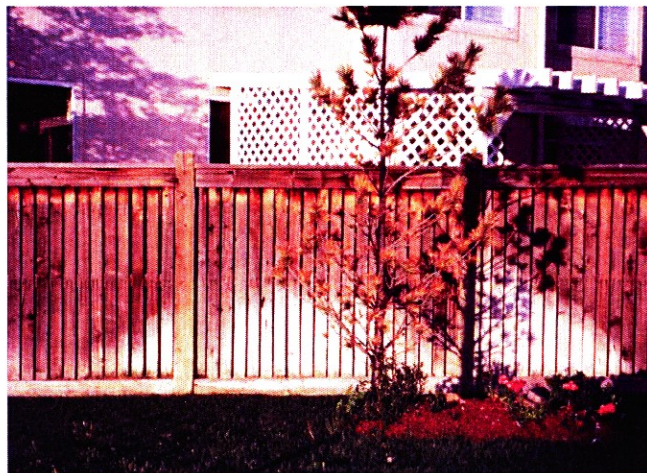
## ***Are you KILLING your landscape with 'KINDNESS'?***



### **Trees demand different treatment**

Trees and shrubs have different water requirements than turf. Ideally, sprinkler systems are designed with distinct stations (watering zones) for lawn areas versus garden areas to accommodate these different demands.

Trees need less frequent irrigation than turf. In this landscape, the pine tree has been watered so frequently that its roots have drowned. To water trees properly, irrigate deeply (allowing the water to penetrate 8 to 12 inches deep) then allow the soil to drain and dry for several days. A healthy soil environment includes 25% 'pore space' (air pockets) so tree roots can 'breathe'.



Turf can be 'trained' to grow deeper roots so summer heat and drought will not cause damage. Every irrigation should moisten the soil to a depth of 8 to 12 inches (about ½ inch of water). Water should not be re-applied until first signs of need. Give your lawn the 'footprint' test; walk across the grass and if your footprints are visible several minutes afterwards your grass needs watering.

### **Weed invasion**

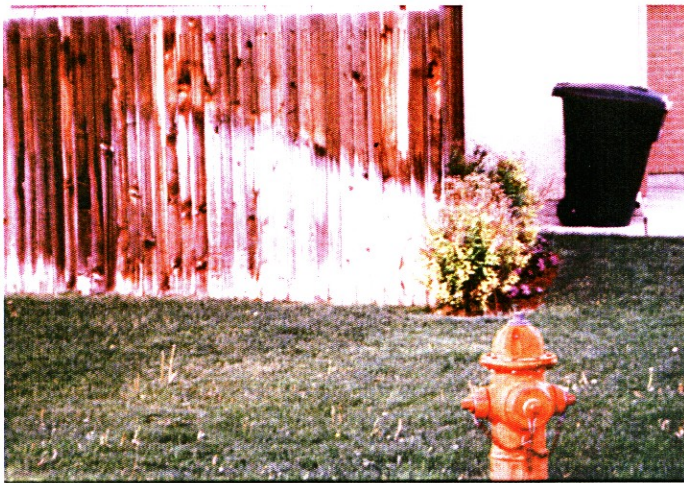
Dandelions and weed seeds germinate and establish quickly in an over-watered lawn. When properly irrigated and fertilized, most turf will out-compete weeds.

## Hardscape breakdown

Besides plants, other elements of your landscape suffer from improper irrigation. This concrete sidewalk cracked due to frost heave in an overly-wet subsoil. The homeowner continued to over-water during the late growing season, when watering should be tapered off.

Weeds grow in wet sidewalk cracks, creating additional deterioration of the sidewalk and more maintenance work.

Excessive water runoff also creates a need for additional fertilizer because the runoff water carries nutrients away from the landscape.



## Aim for a beautiful landscape

Unightly bleaching and salt accumulation on wood fences blemish a landscape. Sprinkler heads must be properly adjusted to avoid spraying fences and buildings.

Efficient irrigation saves more than water. Proper watering saves money, time, fertilizer, pesticides, effort, and frustration.

### Irrigation Schedule - Southern Utah•

#### Month •Interval•

Startup until **March 31**•Once every 8 days•

**April**•Once every 5 days•

**May**•Once every 4 days•

**June**•Once every 3 days•

**July**•Once every 3 days•

**August**•Once every 3 days•

**September**•Once every 5 days•

**October**•Once every 7 days•

**November 1 to Shutdown**•Once every 10 days•

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