

SUMMER LAWN WATERING SCHEDULE

Draft Template for a Small Texas Community · Prepared July 27, 2026

Important Note on This Document

This is a general-guidance template, not a verified ordinance for a specific town. I do not have a verified source confirming official water restrictions for your particular town — actual watering days, hours, and enforcement vary by city/utility and by current drought stage. Before distributing or enforcing this schedule, verify current rules with your town's water utility or Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) drought contact.

Why a Schedule Is Needed

High summer temperatures increase evaporation and lawn-water demand, while daily or midday watering habits waste water without helping grass health. Many Texas cities (e.g., Fort Worth, Lubbock, Frisco, and utilities in the North Texas Municipal Water District) use a permanent odd/even address-day system for exactly this reason — it spreads demand across the week and curbs overwatering.

Recommended Weekly Schedule

Address Ends In	Watering Day(s)	Watering Window
Odd number (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)	Tuesday & Friday	Before 10 AM or after 8 PM
Even number (0, 2, 4, 6, 8)	Monday & Thursday	Before 10 AM or after 8 PM
All addresses	Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday: no landscape watering	—

During an official drought emergency or excessive-heat advisory, many utilities cut this back further to one watering day per week. Approximately — verify the exact trigger and reduced schedule with your local water provider, since drought-stage thresholds differ by city.

Watering Best Practices (Texas A&M AgriLife / Texas Water Resources Institute)

- Water deeply and infrequently rather than a little every day — this trains roots to grow deeper and improves drought tolerance.
- Water early morning, before 10 AM, to reduce evaporation and fungal disease risk. Avoid watering during the hottest part of the day (10 AM–6 PM).
- Use the "finger test": press a finger into the soil — if it's still moist, skip watering.
- Use the "footprint test" on lawns: if footprints remain visible after you walk across the grass, it likely needs water.
- Aim for about 1 inch of water per week total (including rainfall), split across 1–2 sessions — this is an approximate guideline; adjust for grass type and soil.
- Some midday wilting is normal heat stress, not necessarily a sign the lawn needs water — check again in early evening before adding water.
- Consider the free WaterMyYard tool from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, which uses local weather-station data to send location-specific watering recommendations.

Signs of Overwatering to Watch For

- Water pooling or running off onto sidewalks and streets.

- Soggy or spongy soil, or mushrooms/fungus appearing in the lawn.
- Grass staying wet for many hours after watering.
- Yellowing grass despite frequent watering (can indicate root or fungal stress from too much water).

Sources

How to keep your lawn and landscape alive through summer heat — Texas Water Resources Institute: <https://twri.tamu.edu/blog/how-to-keep-your-lawn-and-landscape-alive-through-summer-heat/>

How to keep your lawn and landscape alive through summer heat — AgriLife Today: <https://agrilifetoday.tamu.edu/2026/07/15/how-to-keep-your-lawn-and-landscape-alive-through-summer-heat/>

Drought Restrictions & Watering Rules — San Antonio Water System: <https://www.saws.org/conservation/drought-restrictions/>

Current Drought Stage & Watering Restrictions — Crystal Clear Special Utility District: <https://crystalclearsud.org/current-drought-stage-and-watering-restrictions>

NTMWD Restrictions 2026 – Stage, Schedule & Fines: <https://lawnbyseason.com/water-restrictions/utility/ntmwd>