

# ***Watering Care Schedule for You and Your Clients***

## **A few notes on proper watering of newly installed material:**

- 1) The first 2 weeks are the most critical days to get your new landscape established and growing in the right direction. Daily watering and/or monitoring is required for the first 2 weeks after planting. This is variable depending on weather and temperatures. It is a good starting point.
- 2) Much nursery stock is grown in an organic material that will dry out quicker than the native soil it's planted in. The roots will search out any moisture in the surrounding soils. Watering the ground around the newly planted material is just as important as watering the plant's root ball.
- 3) You can drown a plant just as easily, sometimes easier, than underwatering a plant.
- 4) Just because it rains doesn't mean that you can forget about watering a newly planted landscape. Check the ground around the plants for moisture levels. For this you can use a soil moisture meter, or just your index finger one to two inches deep in the soil.

## **Watering Guidelines for a Soaker Hose:**

- 1) The use of a soaker hose is our top suggestion. They are available either as a porous, weeping hose or flat, slow-drip style hose. Either one will not only water the plants themselves but also the soil surrounding the newly planted material. Running the soaker hose on a timer makes this chore easy for you and your client. Let it run for 30 mins to an hour in the middle of the day is a great way to get started and try to gauge its needs. Check the ground after a couple watering's to determine future needs.

## **Watering by Hose or Sprinklers:**

- 1) Watering the plant directly at the base is of the utmost importance. Soak the plant for one minute. After that, water the surrounding soil in a several spots to ensure that the soil is moist around the plant.
- 2) The use of a sprinkler or sprinkler system can also work, but the plants do not need the same amount of water as your lawn. Allow the sprinklers to saturate the ground around the new plant material. \*(If a sprinkler is used try to avoid watering the top vegetation of the plant to reduce diseases.)