

Recommendations for Watering Newly Seeded Native Grasses

Watering the newly seeded grasses (seeding to week 4):

- 3-4 DAILY irrigation cycles
- Maintain surface moisture for germination (1 inch deep)
- Monitor/adjust irrigation amounts and frequency during very hot or wet weather (this is not a “set it and forget it” schedule)
- Watch for seedling/germination growth
- Use common sense
 - You will need to water more often if it’s bare soil with no mulch
 - You will water less often if you’re seeding into dead mulch

Watering seeding areas: Weeks 5-8 (2nd month):

- The seedlings have rooted!
- Reduce watering to ONCE daily, or every other day
- Maintain soil moisture to a depth of 2-3 inches
- Monitor/adjust irrigation during very hot or wet weather
- **Your goal is to have *some* surface drying between irrigations**
- Continue to use common sense, depending on the location

Watering seeding areas: Weeks 9-12 (3rd month):

- Seedlings are well rooted!
- Irrigate once or twice WEEKLY
- Maintain the soil moisture to 4-6 inches deep
- Monitor/adjust during very hot or wet weather
- **You want *surface drying* between irrigations**
- Too much water at this stage will encourage weeds
- Remember this is not bluegrass; these are grasses that can tolerate drought; resist the urge to water more often—these are tough grasses!