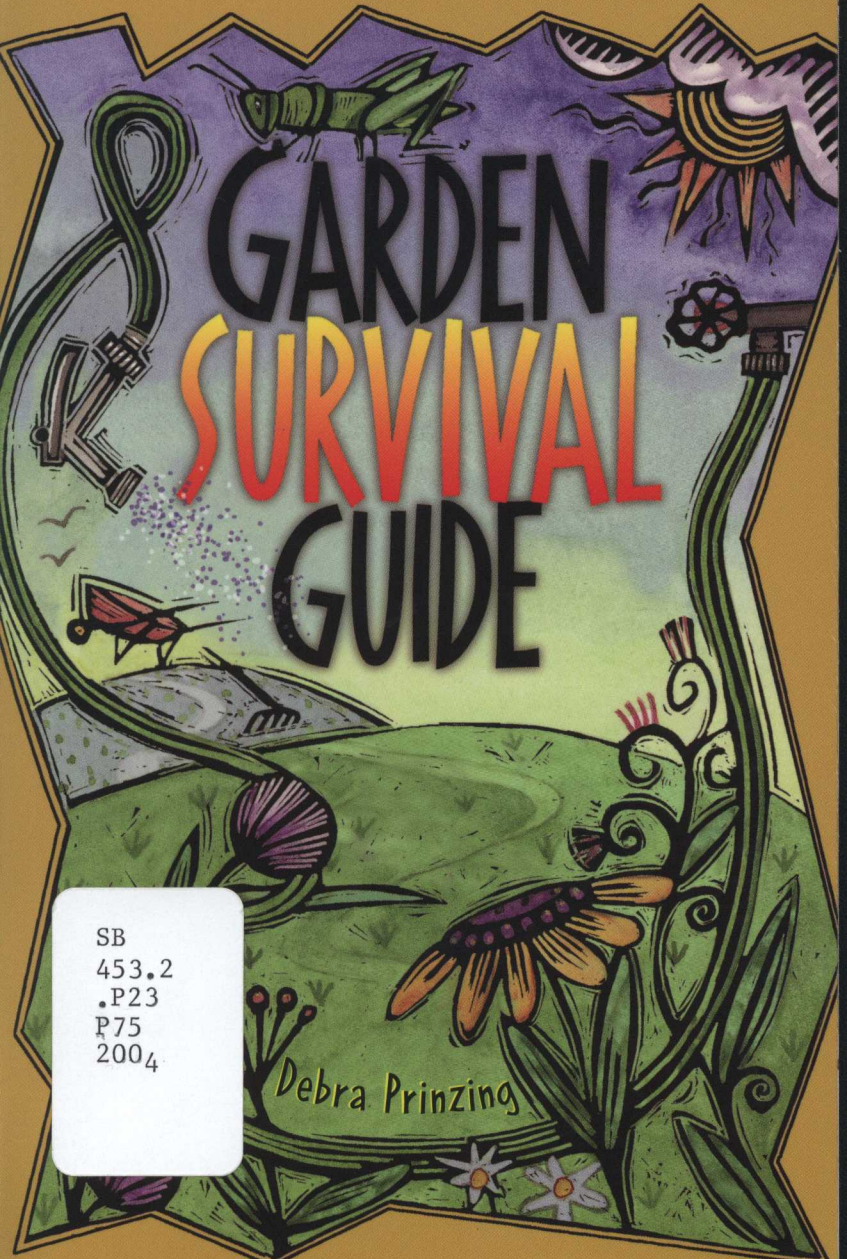


Pacific Northwest



GARDEN
SURVIVAL
GUIDE

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WHEN TO WATER AND HOW MUCH?

	ANNUALS	TREES, SHRUBS, PERENNIALS	LAWNS
Water WHERE the roots are*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most roots are in the top 12 inches of soil, spreading just a short distance from the plant. (Recent transplants and seedlings have shallower roots.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Root systems can go down a couple of feet, and may extend two to five times the branch spread. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typically 4 to 6 inches deep, and only under areas covered by grass.
SIGNS it is TIME to water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil is dry below the surface. • Evergreen leaves are dull or bronze. (Try not to let plants wilt. Most will be stunted or die if allowed to dry out.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilted leaves that do not perk up in the evening. • Yellowing deciduous leaves before autumn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dull green color. • Footprints show long after you walk across the lawn. • Difficult to push a screwdriver or trowel into the soil.
WHEN to water and HOW MUCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check soil often to make sure it stays moist 1 to 2 inches below the surface. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water needs vary widely by plant and situation; many may not need irrigation a few years after planting in proper conditions. • Refer to gardening books or ask nursery experts about water needs of plants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply no more than 1 inch of water each week during summer, including rain. • Lawns allowed to turn brown recover better if they get a thorough soaking every month in summer.

* Roots may be shallower or less widespread if soil is compacted or disturbed.

Courtesy Seattle Public Utilities/Saving Water Partnership





HOW LONG SHOULD I WATER?

How LONG to
water if I have:

	Average depth in your cans after 15 minutes **				
	1/8"	1/4"	1/2"	3/4"	1"
CLAY soil (1X per week*)	2 hrs.	1 hr.	30 min.	23 min.	15 min.
LOAMY soil (2X per week)	1 hr.	30 min.	15 min.	11 min.	8 min.
SANDY soil (3X per week)	40 min.	20 min.	10 min.	8 min.	5 min.

* May be split into two or more applications a few hours apart to prevent runoff.

** See "Avoid overwatering" on page 109 for instructions.

Courtesy Seattle Public Utilities/Saving Water Partnership

