

Sprinkler Crash Course Handout

- Tools you will need
 - Poly cutters
 - Primer and glue
 - Teflon tape
 - Wire strippers
 - Trenching shovel and hand shovel
 - Screw drivers
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Start with a good design
 - Design each space (lawn, gardens, flower beds)
 - Design to scale (graph paper – 1 block = 1 sq/ft)
 - Know where system starts and/or existing lines
 - Know where the controller is/going to be
 - Know pressure (PSI) and flow (GPM)
 - Know what your water is
- Point of connection
 - Where is it at? Basement of front yard
 - Hand ball valve or Stop and Waste
 - Secondary vs. culinary
- Backflow preventer (culinary only)
 - Protection from your sprinkler system
 - Don't forget to winterize
- Filters (secondary systems)
 - Clean often (depends of water quality)
 - Drain in fall
- Sprinkler Zones
 - Physical barriers (driveway, sidewalk, fences, etc.)
 - Sprinkler types (spray, rotors, MP rotator, drip, etc.)
 - Micro-climate (full sun, shade, partial shade, etc.)
 - Flow and pressure capacity
 - Plant water needs
- Valves
 - 1" standard
 - Valves for drip need a filter and pressure reducer
- Wire and wire nuts
 - 7 wire for a 6 zone system
 - White is common
 - Waterproof wire nuts
- Valve box and manifolds
 - Prebuilt manifolds
 - Box with gravel
 - Avoid being too close to window wells and foundation

- Add a blow out or drain
- Sprinkler pipe
 - PVC straight pipe
 - Needs to be glued
 - Poly, flex, or funny pipe
 - Uses couplers (no glue needed)
- Sprinkler connections
 - Use a ½" flexible arm to allow for adjustment
 - Keeps the pipe lower
 - Allows for easy repair and replacement
 - Won't break the pipe when hit or run over
- Drains
 - Allows the system to drain naturally
 - Use at all dead-end lines and low point
 - Surround in gravel
- Types of sprinklers
 - Rotors
 - Spray
 - MP rotators (most efficient)
- Spray coverage
 - Head to head coverage
- Drip systems
 - Point source drip
 - Inline drip
 - Micro-spray
- Sprinkler controllers
 - Smart timers
 - Programmed from your phone
 - Uses wi-fi to get weather data
 - Save water in off peak times
 - Know how much you are using
 - Rebates available

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