



Run-off Inspection Worksheet

<http://WaterWiseNow.com/RunOffWorksheet>



This worksheet is designed to help you identify then repair, replace, or upgrade sprinklers that create wasteful run-off.

In the state of California, run-off is an offense punishable by up to \$500 per violation—we have a serious problem with wasting water and you can help by starting with your yard.

EQUIPMENT YOU'LL NEED

Required: Pencil (you might get wet and ink bleeds)

Required: A Clipboard (hard surface to document your findings)

Required: A Tape Measure or Ruler (to measure pop-up height)

Highly Recommended: A helper! Having one makes the process go a LOT faster.

Recommended: Gardening gloves. Your hands might get dirty while unearthing sprinkler heads.

Recommended: Sprinkler Flags. Order from us or pick them up at your local hardware store. If you don't want to purchase sprinkler flags, you'll need something else you can stick in the ground to mark where sprinklers are located (one customer used shish-kabob skewers!) Learn more about the sprinkler flags in the Prerequisites section on Page 2.

WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING

You will complete this worksheet packet to identify sprinklers creating run-off. By activating each station of your irrigation system, either from your irrigation controller or manually at each station valve, you will document where and what sprinklers may be wasting your water.

TERMS TO KNOW

Low Head Drainage: When water comes out the lowest sprinkler(s) after the irrigation system stops watering.

SAM: The specialized sprinklers that stop low head drainage

Controller: The timing device that runs your sprinklers

Valve/Station: Each circuit that makes up your system is operated by a valve. Each valve corresponds to a station in your controller.

Run-off: Water that leaves your property instead of watering plants.

Overspray: Watering hardscape (streets, driveways, sidewalks) instead of plants.

Stuck or confused? Ask us! Call toll-free at 1(844) LESS-H2O or email support@waterwisenow.com

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PREREQUISITES

YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW HOW TO TURN ON A SPRINKLER LINE MANUALLY.

You can either do this at your controller, or by physically turning on the valve you want to work with. We recommend the former.

If you don't already know how to manually start a station (valve) from the controller, the process is usually listed on a quick start guide on the inside cover of the controller.

If you don't have this guide or the owners manual, write down the make and model of your controller and go to the manufacturer's website. Manufacturer's usually have downloadable instructions for operating your controller. Print them out and keep them with the controller for future reference.

PURCHASE SPRINKLER FLAGS TO KEEP TRACK OF SPRINKLER LOCATIONS.



25-50 is probably enough, unless you plan to leave all of your sprinklers marked while you wait for your MP Rotators to arrive.

We recommend blue for properly operating sprinklers, red for problem

sprinklers—but you can use any system you want.

EFFICIENT WORK TIP!

As you go through the process, you might find it helpful to keep a record of each sprinkler station number and what area of your yard it is watering. You can keep that record here, and even tape this into your controller box for future reference.

SPRINKLER STATIONS

STATION #1

Description _____
 (Identify which group of sprinklers this station is watering. Example: Left side of driveway)

STATION #2

Description _____

STATION #3

Description _____

STATION #4

Description _____

STATION #5

Description _____

STATION #6

Description _____

STATION #7

Description _____

STATION #8

Description _____

INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This worksheet is designed to help you identify run-off caused by Low Head Drainage, but odds are good you're going to find other issues, specifically overspray problems, while you're inspecting.

We've added overspray inspection to this worksheet, but if you find it confusing, you can perform the tasks completely separately. Go through the process once for low head drainage and then come back and deal with overspray issues.

IDENTIFY YOUR SPRINKLER LOCATIONS AND MARK OUT PROBLEM SPRINKLERS

NOTE: You will get wet. Make sure you're wearing clothes you don't mind getting wet in, and take your phone out of your pocket!

1. Go to the controller and write down the station number. Manually turn on the station you're inspecting.
2. With the water running, put a BLUE sprinkler flag next to each spray head that is watering as expected.
3. If you're seeing overspray, where streets, driveways, or sidewalks are getting watered directly instead of

SPRINKLER STATION # _____

just the plants, put a RED sprinkler flag next to any spray head that is watering pavement (this is called overspray).

This is so you can find them easily later. Sometimes they're hiding under dirt and thick grass and you may have to dig around to find them.

3. Go back to the controller, turn off the station. (Or have your helper do this!)
4. Go back to the area near the street and inspect the sprinkler heads that might be the lowest on the line. You might see water flooding off the lawn onto the sidewalk or street, or it might be more subtle where the sprinkler head just looks really wet and the water on top of it is still moving. Put TWO RED sprinkler flags next to each sprinkler head that water is still coming out of.

If you weren't able to get to all of the streetside or potential lowest head sprinklers, turn your station back on for a minute, then shut it off and keep inspecting!

5. Count all of the sprinkler heads you marked with TWO RED sprinkler flags so you'll know what to order later. The total goes in the text area below.

of heads with Run-off _____
(Two red flags)

PREPARATION FOR FIXING, REPLACING, AND UPGRADING SPRINKLERS

When you replace a sprinkler, you have to know a few things about it.

1. What kind of sprinkler is it? Pop-up spray sprinklers are the most common. If you have another kind, skip this part of the worksheet, it's just for spray heads.

2. What is the height of the pop-up?

To determine the height of the pop-up, turn your station back on at the controller and measure the pop-ups where there are red flags.

Pop-ups are almost always 4" 6" or 12" and it should be fairly easy to tell how tall each one is. Hold the measuring tape or ruler next to the skinny part of the sprinkler and measure it from the base (near the ground) to the top of the sprinkler where the water comes out.

3. If you marked sprinklers for overspray, where streets, driveways, or sidewalks are getting watered directly instead of just the plants, try to see why.

Here are some common scenarios to write down:

The sprinkler is spraying the right shape, but it's not aligned properly.

The sprinkler is not spraying in a regular pattern.

The sprinkler is spraying too far, beyond the planted area and onto hardscape.

The eBook has more information about what to do with these problem sprinklers.

SPRINKLER STATION # _____

Sprinkler Location/Description:

(Describe the sprinkler location and whether it's overspray or low head drainage, so you'll know which one you were talking about later when you go to install or repair it. **Example: Front corner of lot / overspray**)

Pop-up Height 4" 6" 12"

Overspray Type

Misaligned Irregular Pattern Sprays too Far

SPRINKLER STATION # _____

SPRINKLER LOCATION/DESCRIPTION:

Pop-up Height 4" 6" 12"

Overspray Type

Misaligned Irregular Pattern Sprays too Far

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Now tally up all of pop-up sprinklers
you're replacing with SAM sprinkler bodies.

Model #	Pop-up Height	Count
1804-LN	4"	
1806-LN	6"	
1812-LN	12"	

Order the SAM sprinkler bodies
<http://WaterWiseNow.com/SAM>