

# 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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