http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/water

:60 Public Service Announcement

## Watering Your Lawn

Help your grass make it through dry periods by encouraging it to grow deeper roots. Deep roots are able to find water, even when the soil is dry. You can make your lawn more drought-tolerant no matter what kind of grass you have.

Water your lawn only when it shows at least one of the three signs of wilt. Look for leaf blades that fold in half lengthwise, a blue-green color, or footprints that stay visible.

Irrigate your lawn only when at least a third of it shows one or more of these signs. Apply one-half to three-fourths of an inch of water at a time. Applying more water is more likely to hurt your grass than help it.

Mow at the highest recommended height for your turf species, and never cut more than one-third of the leaf blade at any one time. The higher you mow, the deeper the roots and the more drought-tolerant your grass.

Don't water if it's rained in the last day or two, or if rain is forecast in the next twenty-four hours.

This public service announcement is brought to you by Gardening in a Minute. For more information about water conservation, visit Gardening in a Minute dot com or contact your University of Florida/IFAS county Extension office.

The Conserving Water: Solutions for Your Landscape campaign was developed by the Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology.

