

HORTICULTURE HAPPENINGS

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE - RANDALL COUNTY

PLANTS NEED A DRINK IN THE WINTER TOO

The Texas Panhandle receives between 19 and 20 inches of rain a year. In 2018, Randall County received 13.5 inches which is around 7 inches below average. This may vary depending on where you live in the county however, to say the least: Our landscapes need water this winter! It is acceptable to water any-time temperatures are above freezing and the soil is not frozen. The amount of water needed varies depending on the age and species of the plant, the soil texture and the climatic conditions. As a rule of thumb, trees and shrubs should be soaked to a depth of 6 to 8 inches.



Evergreens tend to lose more moisture over the winter and need extra water. Young trees also need extra water, as their root systems are not very large and do not have access to as much underground moisture as larger trees. Lawns have shallow roots and do not need to be soaked to the same depth, however winter watering is also important for a healthy lawn. Watering grass in the winter helps it to green up sooner in the spring. These dry windy days really suck the moisture out of the soil. Supplemental irrigation is needed to ensure good plant health.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating