

## *Watering Guidelines*

October 19, 2007

(Courtesy – Fairlington Mews Landscape Committee)



Dear Residents,

The continuing drought is taking its toll on our landscape materials. We need everyone's help in the struggle to keep as much of the landscape alive as possible. Pending any restrictions placed on water usage by Arlington County, residents are asked to help water the landscape.

1. Landscape material especially that planted within the last two / three years, needs regular watering.
2. Using a trickling hose or soaker/ shower setting, let the hose run at the base of the plant from 20 to 60 minutes depending on the plant size. A small shrub needs about 20 minutes, while a larger tree needs more water time – up to an hour - to soak down to the roots. Water at least twice a week during the drought.
3. If possible, loosen the soil/ mulch at the base of the shrub to allow the water to penetrate and not run off the surface.
4. The roots of larger trees extend to the “drip line” (outer reaches of the branches) and beyond. Soaking within this area will guarantee water reaching the tree roots. A sprinkler works well in this case to reach maximum root area, but it needs to be left on long enough to soak the area – from one up to four hours.
5. Do not water the grass; it has gone dormant and will revive with rainfall. At this time, water needs to be directed to the trees and shrubs.

The Mews Condominium Association has contracted with Environmental Enhancements to water selected trees within the common areas. Materials marked with tape have been identified for such watering. The tape does not indicate any possibility of tree removal.



Street trees also need water. The Mews realizes that several street trees – identified as those in the median between the sidewalk and the roadway, especially along S. 36<sup>th</sup> Street, have died and need to be removed. The Association has asked Arlington County to address this issue. Other Associations may wish to take the same step.

Thank you for your cooperation.