EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION

IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND
BACKGROUND

- President, C.Pine Associates, Inc.
- Massachusetts Resident - Bourne MA
- Nationally Certified Landscape Water Manager, Irrigation Designer, Contractor, Auditor and Technician.
- Extensively involved in irrigation industry leadership nationally and locally.
- Recognized nationally as a leading professional industry instructor and trainer.
OBJECTIVES

- Awareness of how new technologies are providing tools for efficient watering.
- Understanding that technology does nothing without proper programming.
- Regulatory issues to help us better manage water used in the landscape.
In the United States, agricultural irrigation is by far the largest user of fresh water, using 79.6% of the total consumed in the country.

Industry and power generation use another 8.5%.

Domestic use - 4.3%  
Livestock operations 3.2%
Landscape irrigation (except golf courses) consumes 2.9%.
Golf courses use approximately 1.5% of the country's freshwater consumption.
Locally?
DO WE NEED TO IRRIGATE THE LANDSCAPE?
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Landscape
Irrigation
BMP's
TECHNOLOGY

- Gives us the ability to fine tune performance i.e. pressure regulation.
- Schedule irrigation based on weather or soil moisture.
- Communication and accessibility.
- Gives us the ability to monitor and manage remotely.
- But, we still need to inspect the systems.
TECHNOLOGY

- Smart Controllers
  - Weather based and soil moisture based.
TECHNOLOGY

- What’s better – weather or moisture sensing?
- Deficit based programming vs. predictive based programming.
- What about flow sensing?
  - Tracks Water Use
  - Leak Detection
Example of how cloud based control systems work.
SIMPLE TECHNOLOGY
More and more data is becoming available on the effectiveness of different types of watering restrictions.

- Effective communication is always a key factor.
- Some restrictions lead to overwatering and waste.
- Soils and root depths limit the amount of water that can be applied and used by plants.

- The time to create efficient watering habits is when we have the water available.
- Thanks for letting us make this presentation – we are always available to help!
QUESTIONS

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