



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Remedies for Post-Summer Lawn Damage

**Maryville, Tenn.** — Even though East Tennessee is an area that typically gets more than 50 inches of rainfall a year, maintaining a healthy lawn can be difficult. East Tennessee's rainy season usually occurs during the winter and spring, which explains why most lawns and landscaping look substantially better in the spring. Irrigation can be a useful supplement to fill in the gaps of less rainfall during the summer and fall.

"Due to the lack of rainfall this past summer, many homeowners and businesses have been left with damage to their lawns and landscaping," said Clint Allison, president of Rainscapes, as he offers tips on how to repair lawns and get ready for the upcoming fall season.

"First of all, most damage to lawns can be repaired with an abundance of seeding in the fall with sufficient watering," said Allison. "Repairing the lawn at this time lets the lawn establish itself before the next summer heat. Consistent watering along with a good fertilizer program also can keep the lawn healthy and minimize the weeds that seem to prosper during the hot months."

Knowing just when the best time to water a lawn can be tricky. Allison suggests that the best time to water is early in the morning, which prevents water from setting on the grass overnight, causing fungus and disease problems. This also allows the grass to get more water into its root zone, so the sun does not evaporate the water and the wind does not affect the spray patterns.

Allison added that homeowners and businesses also should aim to water their lawns for longer periods of time and with less frequency to combat the current hot and dry weather. During a typical summer, Allison suggests watering three to four days per week to promote deeper root growth and a stronger lawn that does not stress as easily.

To avoid future lawn damage from hot weather and lack of rain, Allison recommends cutting grass to about 4 inches or higher. During drier months, lawns need to be watered to prevent grass from going dormant or dying.

Some may think using a standard water sprinkler and maintaining lawns themselves might save more money than using an irrigation system. According to Allison, a lot of time, money and water can be saved by using an irrigation system as opposed to a standard water sprinkler. A quality automatic sprinkler system is designed to water just the lawn or landscape areas, which prevents excess water from being sprayed on roads, driveways and structures. Allison said another advantage with the system running automatically includes people forgetting to turn off the sprinkler, which he has heard about numerous times.

The average cost for installing a residential irrigation system for a home on less than an acre starts at approximately \$2,000 for automatic underground sprinklers. Prices vary depending on yard size, complexity of lawn/landscape and other factors that affect time or materials needed to install the system. Each job is unique and needs to be carefully examined to determine exactly what it needs.

For more information on tips for a better lawn and Rainscapes' services, please visit [www.rainscapes.com](http://www.rainscapes.com).

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Rainscapes is the only national Irrigation Association Certified Irrigation Contractor in East Tennessee, offering diverse residential and commercial irrigation products and services including system installations, seasonal irrigation maintenance and landscape lighting and design. Rainscapes was founded by Clint Allison in 1996. In 2010, Allison acquired Duck Irrigation in Knoxville, Tenn. With the acquisition, Duck Irrigation merged and consolidated under the Rainscapes' brand. Visit [www.rainscapes.com](http://www.rainscapes.com) for more information.