



Water Trees First

Trees are our most important garden asset. They provide shade, clean the air, provide habitat for wildlife, they are beautiful and increase your property value. Many of our trees are in lawns and many people have reduced or eliminated watering their lawns. This means many trees will slowly decline and die. Mature trees need deep watering during the dry months in order to stay healthy. A large shade tree takes many years to establish.

Trees need to be the first plant we consider saving during the drought.

A new way of irrigating trees have been developed by the University of California. As you see in the photo you will circle the tree with a drip line or soaker hose beneath the canopy but not at the trunk. Keep each circle 1 foot apart. You can purchase supplies at your local garden center or hardware store.

To get the deep watering needed for trees, you will need to run drip line for several hours but only irrigate every 2-4 weeks. The water needs to penetrate the soil about 2-3 feet deep.

For more information on tree watering go to: cecolusa.ucanr.edu/Master_Gardeners/

Or talk to a UCCE Master Gardener of Colusa County.

