

MINI MORNING AUDIT CHECKLIST

Valve Malfunctions	Location(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Leaky seal or fitting (in valve box)	
Sprinkler System Action Items	
<input type="checkbox"/> High or low pressure	
<input type="checkbox"/> Missing sprinkler head	
<input type="checkbox"/> Damaged sprinkler/nozzle/riser	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clogged nozzle	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tilted or tipped sprinkler head	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunken or elevated sprinkler head	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obstructed sprinkler head	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nozzle aimed in wrong direction	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mismatched sprinkler heads (change to one manufacturer, same type, proper radius)	
Drip System Action Items	
<input type="checkbox"/> Leaky seal or fitting (in valve box)	
<input type="checkbox"/> High or low pressure	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clogged emitter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blown out emitter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Missing emitter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Emitter without plant (install goof plug)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dripline leak (replace line)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mismatched equipment	
Bubbler Action Items	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bubblers need berms and basins	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use pressure compensating bubblers that are not adjustable	
Other Notes & Findings:	

MINI MORNING AUDIT

The City of Scottsdale offers landscape [workshops](#) that will help you discover how to take care of your landscape. The City also offers a wide variety of publications designed to help you care for your landscape. Of particular interest is [Landscape Watering by the Numbers](#), as it will help you address the questions of how long and how much to water. Listed below are common concerns found in landscapes.

VALVE MALFUNCTION

If you're a homeowner, look for leaks in and around valve boxes. If you're walking through the common areas of your HOA, a visual check around the valve boxes may be enough unless you have the desire to look inside and permission from your board to do so.

SPINKLER SYSTEM ITEMS TO LOOK AT:

High pressure – Look for a very fine mist. Up to 50% of water can be lost to wind and evaporation.

Low pressure – Look for distinct green circles of grass around the sprinkler head with brown patches elsewhere. Pressure could be low due to sprinkler heads having worn wiper seals, a valve malfunction, or a supply issue.

Missing sprinkler head or **damaged sprinkler head** – Creates uneven watering patterns.

Clogged nozzle – Look for water coming out of the sprinkler head in a finger-like pattern.

Tilted/tipped sprinkler head – Tilted sprinkler heads deliver water in an irregular pattern.

Sunken or elevated sprinkler head – Sunken sprinkler heads can get obstructed by grass. When elevated too high, sprinkler heads are unsightly and easily damaged.

Obstructed or aimed in wrong direction – Sprinkler heads should be watering grass while avoiding walls, rocks, or tree trunks, etc. The heads may need to be moved or redirected.

Mismatched sprinkler heads – A sprinkler system is most efficient when it has matching sprinkler heads. Each manufacture designs its sprinkler heads to deliver water at a certain rate and because the rate is not standard, mixing brands creates an uneven delivery of water.

DRIP SYSTEM ITEMS TO LOOK AT:

High pressure – Emitters continually pop off.

Low pressure – The water is coming out fast at the beginning of the line but slow at the end. Pressure compensating emitters may fix the problem.

Clogged emitter – Replace or clean out. Pressure compensating drip emitters are recommended.

Blown out emitter – Emitter is present but is allowing too much water to be delivered. Replace emitter.

Missing emitter – Replace emitter.

Emitter without plant – Install a goof plug or put in a plant.

Dripline leak – Look for a wet spot with no emitter. You may see excessive weed growth and the ground may feel soft. Replace the line.

Mismatched equipment – Water output is typically stamped on emitters in gallons per hour (1gph, 2gph, 4gh) or liters per hour. Mismatched emitter output results in uneven delivery of water to plants on the same dripline. Verify that emitter output meets plant water needs.

BUBBLERS

Bubblers need berms and basins – Bubblers put out water quickly, and the water needs to be corralled so that it can soak into the root zone of the plants. Non-adjustable pressure compensating bubblers are recommended.

OTHER ITEMS TO NOTICE from [Landscape Watering by the Numbers](#)

Signs of overwatering plants: Leaves turn a lighter shade of green or yellow. Young shoots are wilted. Growth is excessive. Algae and/or mushrooms are on or around plants.

Signs of overwatering grass: Water constantly puddles in areas. Turf has a musty odor. Soil is extremely soft and mushy. Algae or mushrooms are present.