“Smart” Irrigation Controllers

Up to a 50% Rebate for Eligible Water Utility Customers

Smart irrigation controllers automatically adjust watering times based on weather conditions to provide optimal moisture for healthy plants and conserve water. Smart controllers use inputs from on-site sensors or wireless downloads from regional weather stations to adjust watering schedules daily. Some models allow remote monitoring and adjustment by computer or phone.

How Much Water Can A Smart Controller Save?
Water savings of 15 to 30% are common when traditional irrigation timers are changed to smart controllers. Savings depend how well irrigation has been managed previously, and how accurately the smart controller is set up. Smart controllers will save more water at sites where irrigation cannot be regularly adjusted by an experienced manager.

How Much Do Smart Controllers Cost?
Smart features can be added to some controllers for under $100. Replacing an older controller with a smart model can cost between $150 and $500, depending on model and system size.

What Is Required To Program a Smart Controller?
Some smart controllers such as the Hunter Solar Sync module and the Irritrol RainDial-R, simply adjust regularly scheduled watering times. These are easy to set up and produce savings regardless of the program. Others, including the Rainbird SMT, require input of information about the plants, soil, exposure and sprinkler type in each zone. They make it easy for people with little knowledge of irrigation practices to set a reasonable program, but use assumed watering rates based on the sprinkler types that may be inaccurate and are complex to correct. Both types require informed programming for best results.

Solar Sync sensor and control module can be added to give many Hunter irrigation controllers “smart” capabilities.
Commonly Available Smart Controllers Eligible for Rebate*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Controller</th>
<th>Sensor</th>
<th>Programming</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hunter I-Core, PCC, Pro-C, ICC, SRC, XC</td>
<td>Solar Sync Module plus Sensor</td>
<td>Set base run times for each zone on controller.</td>
<td>Wired or wireless sensor with 10-year battery. Indoor and outdoor models.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter X-Core</td>
<td>Solar Sync Sensor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Irritrol RainDial-R, Total Control-R or Kwik-Dial</td>
<td>Climate Logic Module plus Sensor</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wireless sensor only, with 5-year battery. Indoor and outdoor models.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain Bird ESP-SMT. Upgrade available for EXP-Mod controllers</td>
<td>SMT Sensor</td>
<td>Input info about site, soil and plants for each zone.</td>
<td>Wired sensor only. Indoor and outdoor models.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toro XTRA SMART</td>
<td>XTRA SMART Sensor and SMART POD</td>
<td></td>
<td>Indoor model and wireless sensor only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weathermatic Smartline</td>
<td>SLW Weather Station</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wired or wireless sensor. Indoor and outdoor models.</td>
</tr>
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*Other Smart Controllers may qualify for rebates if pre-approved by the City of Olympia.

Weathermatic Smartline controllers can adjust watering based on data from an on-site weather sensor, or using pre-set monthly percentages.
Rebate Eligibility Requirements

- Rebates are available to residential customers who receive City of Olympia water service.
- Rebates are for up to 50% (not to exceed $200) of the installed cost (device plus labor). The total rebate will not exceed the receipt amount of the device.
- Select a model from the *Commonly Available Smart Controllers Eligible for Rebate* table, or call (360) 753-8271 to receive written pre-approval for alternate models.
- Smart controllers must be installed and programmed by a licensed irrigation contractor; signature verification is required on rebate application.
- Rebate application must include the original dated sales receipt and labor invoice.
- Rebates are for new devices only; pre-existing smart controllers are not eligible.
- Prior to approval, an on-site inspection may be required by the City of Olympia. If you would like verification of programming, you may call (360) 753-8271 to request a site visit.
- Only one rebate will be issued per property.

How To Set Up A Smart Controller for Efficient Watering and Healthy Plants

Smart Controllers and sensors must be properly installed and programmed in order to achieve the potential savings and maintain healthy plants. Follow installation and programming directions that come with each controller, in addition to the guidelines for setup below.

1. Place weather sensor in a sunny spot - or the sunniest spot available - where it will catch rain unobstructed by trees, walls or roof eaves. Good spots include a roof fascia or gutter (see illustration), or on top of a fence. Make sure it is not in the path of sprinkler spray.
2. Set to a typical program for mid-summer (July-August). Controller will automatically adjust based on zip code, regional code entered, and weather sensor.
3. Input information about soils, plants, etc.

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