



# Residential Irrigation - Smart Controllers

## Smart Controller Rebate - Up to \$200

**Smart irrigation controllers automatically adjust watering times based on weather conditions to provide optimal moisture to grow healthier plants and lawns.** Smart controllers use weather data from on-site sensors or nearby weather stations connected through your home Wi-Fi network. Some models let you monitor and control watering schedules from your computer or mobile phone.



### How much water can a Smart Controller save?

Water savings of 15-30% are common when traditional irrigation timers are changed to smart controllers. Savings depend on how well irrigation has been managed previously, and how accurately the smart controller is set up.

### How much do Smart Controllers cost?

Some controllers can be upgraded with weather sensors for under \$100. Replacing an older controller with a smart model can cost between \$100 and \$500, depending on model and number of zones.

### What Is required to program a Smart Controller?

Some smart controllers simply adjust the watering times you set. These are easy to set up and should produce savings regardless of the program. Others calculate a program based on information you enter about the plants, soil, exposure and sprinkler type in each zone. They can make it easy for someone with little knowledge of irrigation needs or equipment to set a reasonable program, but use assumptions that may be inaccurate. For best results, both types require informed programming and some fine-tuning based on observation.

### Rebate Eligibility Requirements

- Rebates are available to residential customers who receive City of Olympia water service.
- Rebates are for up to 50% of the installed cost (device plus labor) not to exceed \$200. 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 360.570.3793 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.
- Only one rebate will be issued per property.

## Smart Irrigation Controllers

### Commonly Available Smart Controllers Eligible for Rebate\*

Controller	Sensor	Programming	Features
Hunter I-Core, PCC, Pro-C, ICC, SRC, X-Core	Solar Sync (older models require added control module).	Set base run times for each zone on controller.	Wired or wireless sensor with 10-year battery.
Hunter HC Series and X2	Requires Wi-Fi connection.		Control by phone or computer app. Inexpensive flow/leak
Rain Bird ESP-Me, ESP-TM2 or ESP-RZXc	Requires Wi-Fi connection.		Easy set up using phone app.
Irritrol Total Control-R or Kwik-Dial	On site sensor or Internet / Wi-Fi options.		Wireless sensor only.
Rain Machine	Requires Wi-Fi		
Orbit B-Hyve	Requires Wi-Fi connection.	Input info about site, soil and plants for each zone.	Control by phone app or at controller
Rachio	Requires Wi-Fi connection.		Control by phone or tablet app. Wireless flow/leak sensor op-
Skydrop	Requires Wi-Fi connection.		Control by phone app or at controller.
Weathermatic Smartline	SLW Weather Station.		Wired or wireless sensors, Cell phone control option—annual fee.

*\*Other Smart Controllers may qualify for rebates if pre-approved by the City of Olympia.*



# Smart Irrigation Controllers

## 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 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. For controllers that you program with run times (not input zone characteristics), set program for mid-summer needs (July-August).
3. For controllers that calculate a schedule based on inputs about plants, soils and irrigation in each zone; be sure to check soil depth and type in every zone: Soils can vary considerably in one garden.

