

How to Install Drip Irrigation with an Existing Sprinkler System

If you have questions or need further information please call (707) 647-5327 or e-mail savewater@cityofamericancanyon.org

Drip irrigation is a highly efficient way to water. Studies show that well-designed drip systems use at least 30 percent, and in some cases 50 percent, less water than other methods of watering such as sprinklers. Here are the steps to convert your lawn to drip irrigation.

Replacing an existing sprinkler system to drip irrigation with a universal pop up conversion kit is straightforward

Step 1:

Identify a spray head to use as water supply and then cap all other existing sprinkler heads.

Note: When the sprinklers are removed do not let any dirt or debris enter the existing water line.



Step 2:

Remove the sprinkler and insert the pop up conversion kit canister. Note: The filter and adapter top must be removed from the canister.



Step 3:

Flush the irrigation line to clear any debris that might have entered during this process. This will prevent the canister's filter and emitters from clogging in the future. Note: Flush the irrigation line with the canister before adding the filter and adapter top.



Step 4:

Reassemble the filter and adapter top. Note: Remember, "Righty tightly, lefty loosely".



Step 5:

Attach a ½ inch polyethylene hose to the pop up connector and screw the connector into the adapter top. Lay down the polyethylene hose close to the desired watering area.



Step 6:

Apply stakes to the polyethylene drip irrigation tubing in order to stake it down. Make sure to stake down the entire tube close to the desired watering area. Make sure the staple doesn't pinch the tube.



Step 7:

Next, cap the end of the polyethylene drip irrigation tubing.



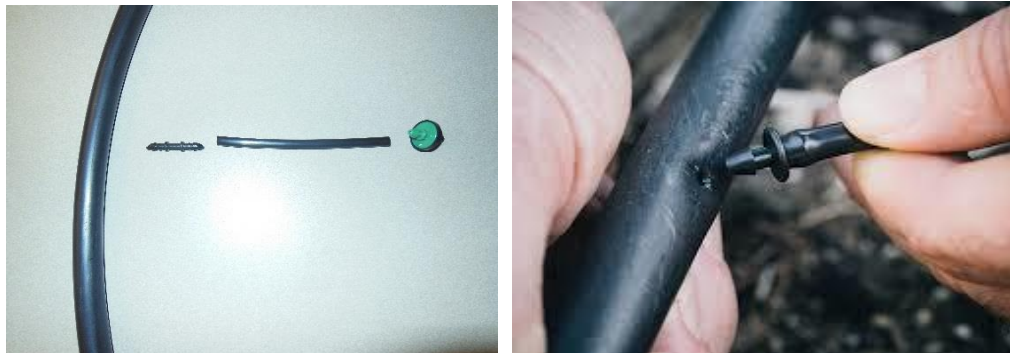
Step 8:

When installing the emitters, choose the appropriate size emitter for the water demand of each plant or tree. Begin installing the emitters by making a hole on the polyethylene drip irrigation tubing with a hole-punching device.



Step 9:

Insert a double barbed connector into the emitter tubing and insert the other half into the polyethylene drip irrigation tubing. Attach the emitter as following.



Step 10:

Make sure all connections are secure. Test your drip irrigation system for any possible leaks by turning on your irrigation system. Before turning on your irrigation system make sure the valve has been reduce in order to lower the psi. To much psi can burst the emitters and all other connections. Search for leaks between all connection once the water has been turned on. Check your irrigation sysytem monthly for clogged emitters or disconnections between the tubing. Once the test has been complete, cover all the irrigation tubing in order to protect it from ultraviolet radiation. Lastly, reset your irrigation timer and set a watering schedule according to your municipal ordiance.

