

# For a Strong Lawn, Mow High

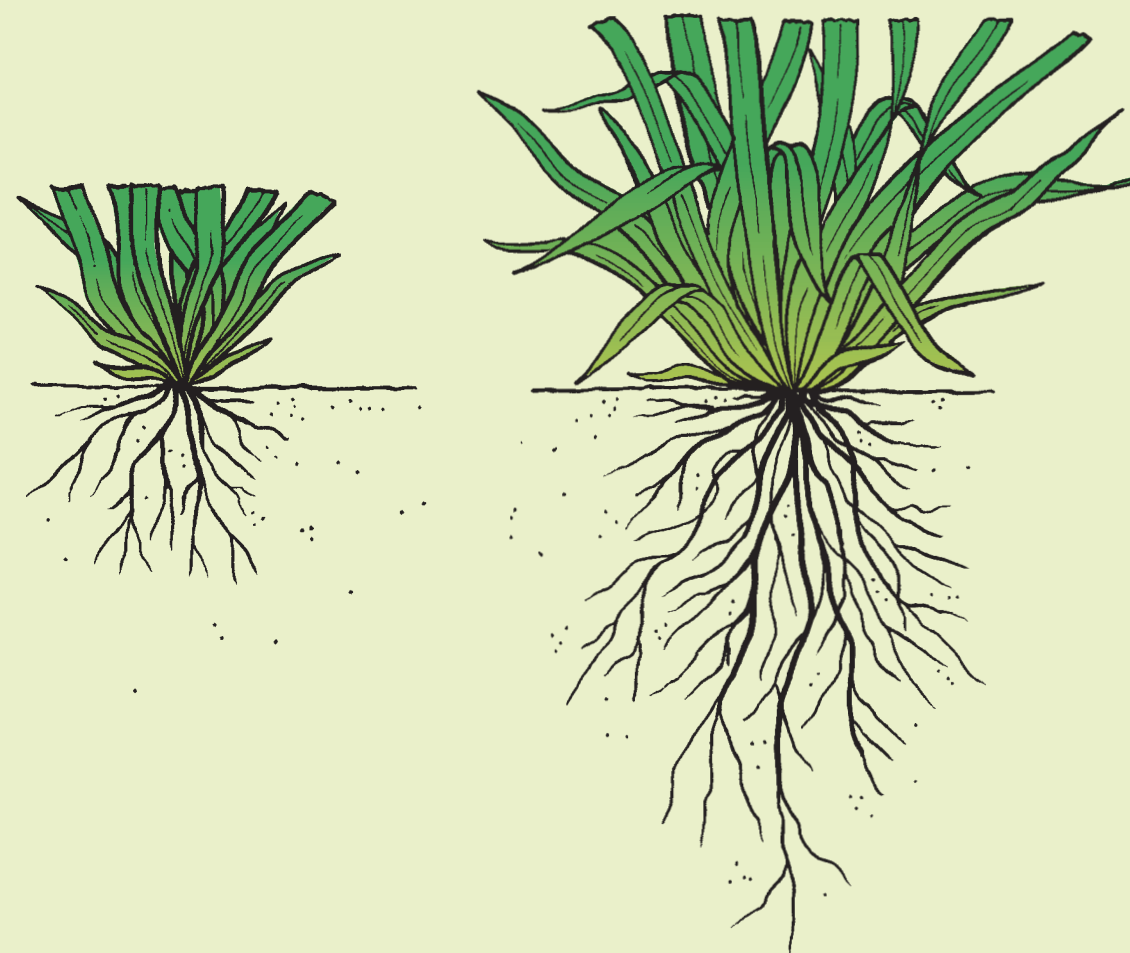
## Grow Deeper Roots with Your Mower



It's easy to help grass roots grow deep, reach more water (so you don't have to water as much) and ultimately, become healthier, stronger and more disease-free even during drought.

### How?

Set your mower height at 3.5 inches.



To learn more, visit:  
[extension.umn.edu/turfgrass](http://extension.umn.edu/turfgrass)

# Give Your Lawn a Brain

## Invest in a SMART Controller



### Get SMART with a Rain Sensor

A rain sensor can be added to any irrigation system. It stops it from running when it rains. In fact, it's the law. A sensor is required on any system installed in Minnesota after 2003.

Take the worry out of when to water. Whether it rains a little or a lot, a SMART controller automatically adjusts to weather and soil moisture conditions. For a couple hundred dollars, you can be water SMART!



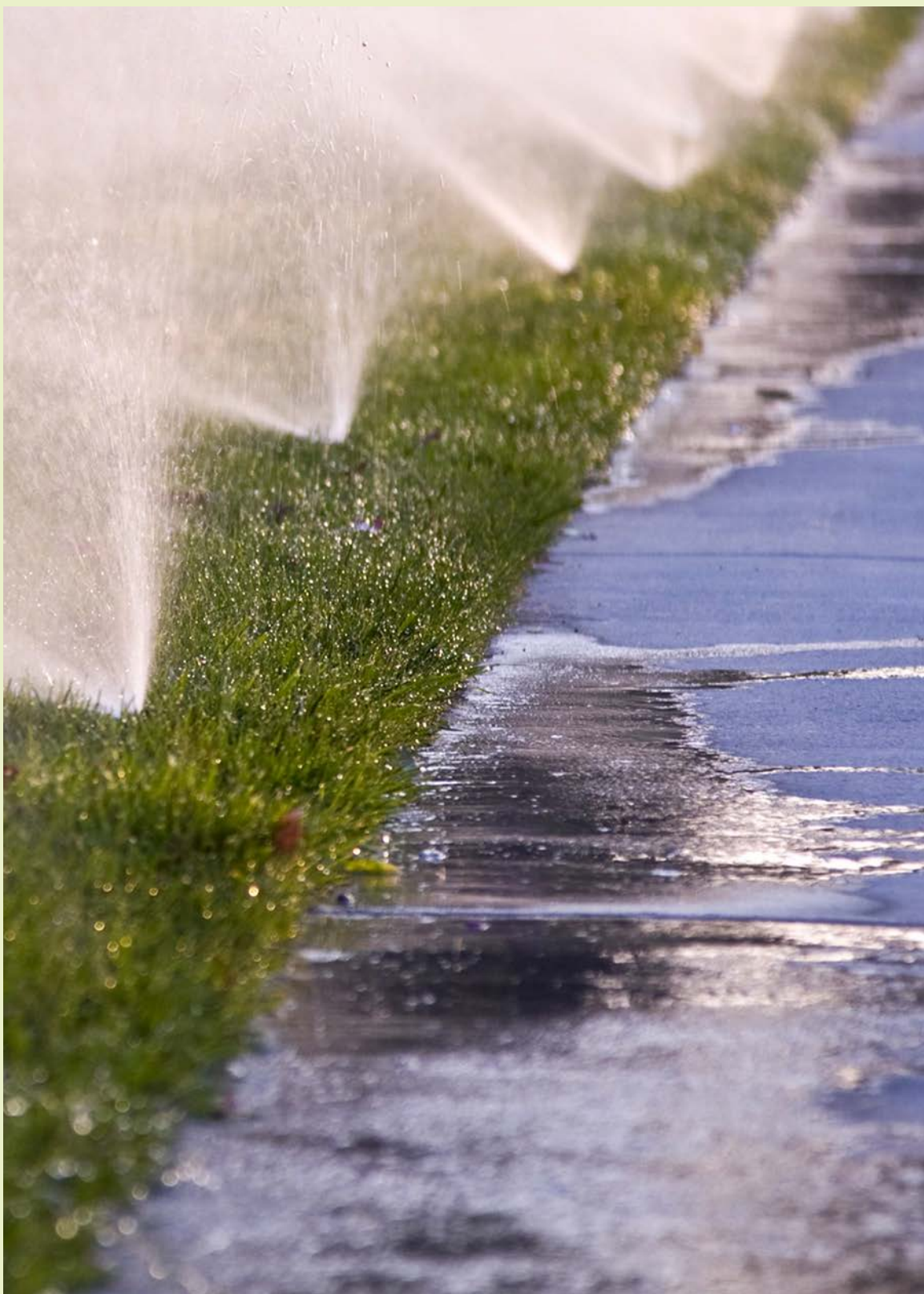
*A SMART Controller can reduce water usage by 30 to 50%.*



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# Cement Won't Grow

## Get a Sprinkler Check Up...



*Realign sprinkler heads away from sidewalks and driveways.*

Did you know 25% of homes in the Twin Cities have five or more leaking sprinklers?\* Just one can waste 1,000 gallons/hour! Keep your water bill low and conserve precious groundwater. Have a certified irrigation contractor test your system every three years.

### ... or Do It Yourself!

It's easy to check your own irrigation system. Learn how to stay in tune by visiting us at [extension.umn.edu/turfgrass](http://extension.umn.edu/turfgrass).

\*Reducing Water Use on Twin Cities Lawns, Metropolitan Council, 2016



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# Grow Easy Peasy Lawns

## Try Low-Maintenance Grasses



*Fescue grass at Minnesota Governor's Residence, St. Paul*

Most Minnesota lawns are planted with Kentucky bluegrass which requires lots of water, fertilizer and mowing to look good. For a terrific looking, easy lawn, try growing fescues. Fine fescue grows slowly. Tall fescue's roots grow deep and stay green even after drought. Mow less, water less!

**Results after 60-day drought trial**



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# Green Grass with Less Blue

## SMART Lawns Make More \$ense



Half of Twin Cities residents run their irrigation systems every other day, but your lawn doesn't need it! Remember, it rains, too. An irrigation system with a SMART controller can figure it out for you. It automatically adjusts to weather and soil moisture content.

### Rain + Watering = 1" Per Week

Watering too much encourages disease to spread and keeps grass roots short, and unable to handle drought. Sprinkle several times to wet the soil 6-8 inches deep. Wait a week to water again.



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