

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1. Can I use a Hose with My DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes?

Yes, to use a hose with the DEEP DRIP® stakes, create a flood irrigation system with a small well or berm around your plant, rather than directly putting the hose into the stake. Directly inserting a hose into the stake will force water to enter too quickly; flooding the root zone and possibly damaging your plant.

## 2. My tree is stressed or seems to be dying – can DEEP DRIP® help save my tree?

Yes, this is one of the main functions of our DEEP DRIP® stakes. Our stakes allow water-soluble fertilizer to reach deep into the root zone for optimal absorption. The stake's shaft is lined with grated holes which aerates soil, allowing oxygen to flow deep to the root zone, which is vital for the health of your tree. Of course, the stakes also saturate water deeper into the soil, encouraging deeper and healthier root systems. Many customers have shared stories about how DEEP DRIP® Stakes helped bring their trees back to health.

## 3. What are the recommended flow rates for my DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes?

We suggest using an adjustable emitter head (0-15 gallons per hour) with 1/4 inch drip line to control water flow. A local nursery or landscape professional will be able to give you the best suggestion for exactly what flow rate will serve your plant best. For the best possible advice, consider these variables: plant species' specific water/root needs, the irrigation system you are using, regional soil density, and number of stakes – the more DEEP DRIP® Stakes around your plant, the lower the flow needed.

## 4. How do I use these stakes to fertilize?

After installing your stake, remove the top cap, and pour liquid or water soluble fertilizer/nutrients directly into the stake. Water will pass through and slowly dissolve nutrients, feeding your plants at the root. Evenly disperse your chosen fertilizer among all of the plant's installed stakes. Read the package instructions carefully and remember not to over-fertilize or burn your plants' roots!

## 5. I have very hard soil, made mostly of clay or rock, can a DEEP DRIP® stake really go into my soil?

Tough surfaces may make you feel like you're stuck between a rock and a hard place, but that's exactly why you need DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes. Our stakes are perfect for tough soil. Compacted soil only allows for water to reach 3-4" into the ground, even after surface watering for hours. Using DEEP DRIP® stakes allows you to water from 20-50" (depending on stake size) into compacted soil and guarantees deep root growth in even the toughest of places.

As for installation, pre-saturating the soil and/or using a soil softener around the area is recommended. You may also find it helpful to use a 1.25" auger bit to pre-drill a hole where you wish to place the stake. If you hit a rock or a boulder when hammering your stake in, it will need to be moved.

## 6. Will the cap crack or break if I hit it with a sledge hammer?

No, the cap for the 14", 24", and 36" stakes were specifically engineered to withstand the force of repeated hits by a 3-5 lb. sledgehammer. We've put this cap through serious R&D tests including driving a car over a cap numerous times, and hitting a cap over 1,000 times with a 5 lb. sledgehammer while installing.

The 8" cap does not need to be installed with a sledgehammer since it does not go as far into the ground. It is meant to be used with a rubber mallet and not a sledgehammer.

## 7. Will my DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes hold up under extreme temperatures?

Yes, DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes are built of ABS plastic, designed to hold up under both extreme high and low temperatures, from 0°F to 180°F.

We recommend installing your stakes before temperatures reach below 0°F. It is best to winterize your irrigation system with DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes before winter temperatures set in.

## 8. I live in a rainy area with plenty of water for my plants, do I still need DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes?

Yes, rain is a form of surface watering which is not as effective as deep root watering. Rain is also not a reliable, constant source of water compared to an automatic drip system or tree/plant well. DEEP DRIP® Watering Stakes direct plant roots to grow deep into the soil, instead of coming up to the surface looking for a surface/shallow water source like rainwater. Our stakes will guarantee that water will reach deep into your plants' roots consistently and effectively. Our stakes don't just water your plants, they also deliver fertilizer and aerate roots, which rain cannot do.

## 9. What's the best way to water soil with a high saline content?

In areas with a higher saline content using both an emitter head at the surface in combination with DEEP DRIP® will help leach the salt out of the soil.

## 10. Would the 8" stakes work with two liter soda bottles?

Much like directly using a hose, attaching a bottle directly to the stake will likely flood the stake with too much water too quickly, leading to possible root damage. Instead, either flood irrigate your garden or use a drip line with an adjustable emitter head.



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