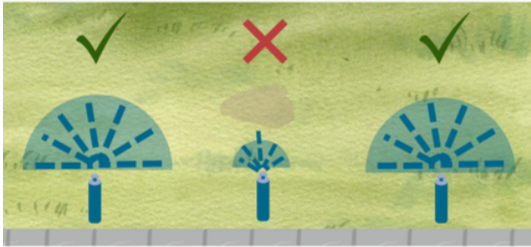


How to Flush Clogged Sprinkler Nozzles

What is a clogged nozzle?

Sprinkler nozzles can become clogged by small debris on the landscape, such as pebbles or soil, which obstruct a nozzle's spray opening. This will not only reduce the efficiency of your irrigation system but can cause dry spots to develop in front of the clogged nozzles over time.

How can I tell if my sprinkler nozzle is clogged?



Turn on a sprinkler zone and inspect each head. Clogged nozzles will display a non-uniform spray pattern, which is typically characterized by sputtering or a reduced throw distance.

How do I flush a clogged nozzle?

Instructions for flushing clogged SPRAY nozzles:

Step 1: While the zone is running, insert a screwdriver into the nozzle opening. Move it back and forth to help clear the obstruction. If this nozzle remains clogged, proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Place sprinkler pliers on the base of the affected sprinkler head's riser. Then, turn the zone off.

Step 3: Twist off the nozzle and remove the filter located directly below it. Flush the nozzle and filter with clean running water until they are free of debris. Try forcing water to flow through both items backward to clear the obstruction.

Step 4: Reinstall the nozzle and filter on the affected sprinkler head. Make any needed adjustments to restore the nozzle to its original spray arc and/or throw distance.

Instructions for flushing clogged ROTOR nozzles:

Step 1: While the zone is running, place a collar on the riser of the affected sprinkler head. Then, turn the zone off.

Step 2: Locate the port just above the nozzle opening. Insert your rotor adjustment tool into the port and turn counterclockwise until the nozzle is no longer held in place.

Step 3: Carefully pry the nozzle from the rotor. Flush it with clean running water until the debris is removed.

Step 4: Reinstall the nozzle in the rotor and turn the radius adjustment screw until the nozzle is secured. Make any needed adjustments to restore the nozzle to its original throw distance.



Next Steps: After making repairs, you may notice that the affected sprinkler nozzle still appears clogged. In this case, it is recommended that the entire sprinkler nozzle be replaced to restore optimal spray performance.