http://www.scotts.com/smg/goart2/watering-the-lawn/art1400917///&campaign=G_Ferts_Fertilizer_General_NonBrand_Search_Phrase&source=google&medium=cpc&term=best_lawn_wateringgclid=CMfm4tyanrgCFbCDQgodm0EAAg

"Watering the Lawn
How much should I water the lawn?

> Turfgrass can generally survive quite nicely without water, turning brown temporarily while drought conditions exist. In the interest of water conservation, we generally advocate watering only on a newly seeded or sodded lawn, or when a fertilizer product needs to be watered in after application because rain is not expected within the week. Watering for the purpose of keeping the lawn green generally requires one inch of water a week, applied in two, ½ inch watering sessions. Note that regularly fertilized lawns will have a healthier rootstock that allows the turf to stay green longer during dry spells without extra water."

http://www.lawncareboise.com/lawn-watering-tips/

"Lawn watering game plan for the Boise area
by admin on June 20, 2010

If you live by the Boise river your watering strategy will be different then if you were to live in Meridian and other areas in the Treasure Valley that have more of a clay soil. Those of you living in Eagle, Star, or in Boise by the river have a sandy soil. Sand does not retain moisture so if your lawn is rooted in sandy soil you will need to water more frequently. The idea when you water your lawn is to do it as infrequently as possible, but really soak your lawn when you do. This creates a deeper root system. This will help your lawn win the fight against the hot Idaho summers and disease.

Watering a lawn in a clay soil should be done once every five days or so when temperatures are moderate. When the summer heat hits you will probably have to crank it up to once every three days. Lawns that are in sandy soils will need to be watered every other day in the summer.

Of course there are many other factors that can effect the health of your lawn like fertilization and proper lawn mowing. Many times we have people who just need a simple sprinkler repair or adjustment to take care a dry spot."

http://boise.weedmanusa.com/news/diagnosing-2013-turf-problems.html

"Idaho Cultural Practices

- **Mowing.** Consider factors such as height, frequency, and sharpness of your mower blades. As a general rule, you should mow your lawn at a height of 2.5 to 3 inches, although this varies depending on the type of grass present. Ask your local Weed Man professional for free mowing tips specific to your region. Mow your lawn only when it needs it, and be sure that your lawn mower is sharp so as not to tug at the grass blades.
- **Watering**. Many Meridian homeowners struggle with how much to water their lawns and when. Pay close attention to the timing and frequency of your watering regimen, as improper irrigation may result in unwanted dry patches and/or harmful turf diseases. Tip: Water in the early

mornings and deliver water in an even soak.

Idaho Weather Conditions

- **Rainfall**. Assess the amount of rainfall there has been in your area. Remember: a healthy lawn only requires about 1-1.5 inches of water weekly to thrive. If there has been adequate rainfall in your area, be sure to curtail your watering practices accordingly."

http://www.american-lawns.com/states/id.html

"Lawn Watering

Water is essential to turfgrass but too much of it can be harmful. Over watering enhances disease development, inhibits uptake of nutrients such as iron which causes iron chlorosis, and contributes to leaching of soluble fertilizer and lawn chemicals to groundwater, particularly in sandy soils.

These consequences happen because oxygen is only partially soluble in water and plant roots need some air-filled pores to insure that enough dissolved oxygen is maintained in the water film around the plant roots.

When excess water fills the soil pores, displacing air, the roots cannot absorb sufficient oxygen for normal growth and may die due to asphyxiation. Insufficient oxygen levels also can stunt root system development, making the plant more susceptible to moisture stress later in the season even though early season was excessively watered."

http://blueribbonlandscapes.com/idaho-lawn-care-and-landscape-maintenance-resources/3-did-you-know/47-overwatering-your-lawn

"Overwatering can damage your lawn. Grass plants that aren't allowed to dry out...

Lawns *do* require a lot of water, relative to your overall household water usage. And you should water deeply, once or twice a week. However, many people overwater their lawns, which can damage your lawn's ecosystem, contribute to growth of fungus and lawn diseases, and works against important common sense water conservation principles."

http://web.cals.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/2012/08/type-of-grass/

"Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass lawns may require up to 2 inches of water per week in the heat of the summer, but only about 1 inch in the cooler spring and fall. Turf-type tall fescue which uses the same or more water than Kentucky bluegrass may not need to be watered as frequently because it has deeper roots so it has a larger soil volume from which to absorb water. Buffalograss, at the other end of the scale, uses very little water and has a deep root system, so it can get by without water for several weeks."

http://web.cals.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/2012/08/lawn-watering-and-time-of-yearweather-conditions/

"During the spring in April to mid May when temperatures are still cool, most cool-season lawns in Idaho will use about one inch of water each week. From about late May to mid August, lawns will use about 2 inches of water per week or slightly more. Then, from mid August to late September they use just over one inch of water. During periods when significant amounts of precipitation is received, lawn sprinklers systems should be turned off. There is no need to irrigate when the soil is already filled to capacity.

Depending on the year and the onset of winter, grasses will still use close to an inch per week in October, and it is important to keep the soil moist, not overly wet, but moist going into winter. This will help prevent winter desiccation damage.

Lawns with significant shade and wind protection will not need as much water, but remember that the grass will be competing with tree roots for water and nutrients, so extra attention needs to be given to these landscapes."

http://web.cals.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/2012/08/lawn-watering-for-different-types-of-soil/

"Whether you have a sandy or clay soil will have a huge influence on the watering practices for your lawn. Sandy soils do not hold very much water and, therefore, lawns growing in sandy soils will need to be watered more frequently. The grass will still use the same amount of water per week, but if the soil cannot hold very much water, you will need to irrigate more frequently. Loamy and clay soils can hold more water than sandy ones and, therefore, lawns growing in clay type soils will not need to be irrigated quite as often.

In either case, apply enough water to penetrate the soil to the depth of the grass roots. Use a shovel or soil probe to determine rooting depth. For most clay type soils it may take 1 to 1¼ inches of water to fill the soil to a depth of 12 inches. For sandy soils, only ¼ - ¾ inch of water is all that may be necessary to fill the soil to a depth of 12 inches. Use a screwdriver to check moisture depth. The screwdriver should easily penetrate the soil to the desired depth you want the water.

In sloped areas, lawns with heavy thatch, or lawns growing in clay or compacted soils, water may need to be applied in small amounts separated by one-half hour increments to allow for adequate water infiltration and to prevent run-off."

http://web.cals.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/2012/08/mowing-height/

"Although there are differences in optimal mowing heights among different types of grasses, for most home lawn situations, a mowing height of 3 inches is a good target. Some grasses can tolerate lower mowing heights, such as perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass, but mowing too low decrease root

growth and makes the lawn more susceptible to drought and heat stress as well as increases the incidence of weeds and diseases. Never mow your lawn lower than 2 inches.

Some people recommend lowering the mowing height in the spring and again in the fall, but this is not absolutely necessary. It is more important to maintain the proper mowing height and to mow frequently. Continue mowing late into the fall until the grass has stopped growing, sometimes as late as late November. This will remove excess debris and decrease the chance of snow mold. Raising the mowing height in the summer is a good practice. This higher mowing height, encourages deeper root growth and increases the lawn's resistance to drought stress. Even a 1/4 inch adjustment (one wheel notch on most rotary mowers) will make a big difference in the health of the grass. "

http://web.cals.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/2012/08/how-often-should-i-mow/

"The rule to use for determining how often to mow is the 1/3 rule which states: Never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade height at any one mowing. So, if your mower is set at 3 inches, you should mow when your grass reaches 4.5 inches. Violating this rule not only scalps the grass and makes it look unsightly, but also puts the grass under stress. If you just can't seem to keep up with the growth of the grass, try raising the height a notch and slowly lowering the mowing height over time to get back at the desired height. "