



Approaches to Converting to Drip Irrigation

1. **Swapping sprinkler heads to spaghetti tube**
2. **Poly tubing with built in emitters.**
3. **Poly tubing with emitters to insert.**
4. **Drip tape**
5. **Soaker Hose**

Converting from a pop up spray head to ¼" poly tubing with attached or build in emitters



Tubing terminates at root zone of plant;
Fitting chosen according to plant water requirements

Converting from a pop-up sprinkler to 1/2" poly tubing with build in emitters.

Pop up spray head replaced with riser that accepts 1/2" poly tubing



Tubing with .9G emitters spaced at 12" woven around plants in the bedding area.



fppt.com



Poly tubing, with 1 gph emitters embedded, runs from plant to plant with equally spaced emitters (6", 12") that can be buried beneath mulch or soil.

fppt.com

Parts



fppt.com

Drip Tube, self-install emitters

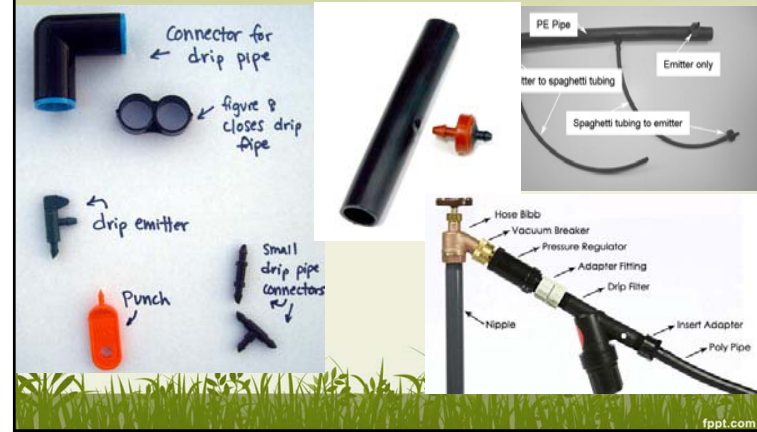


fppt.com

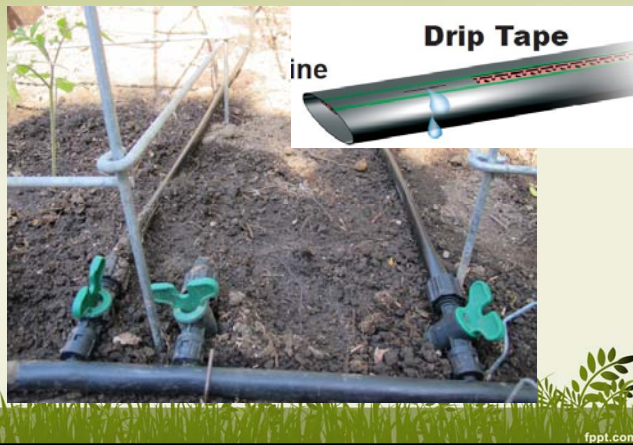
Drip Tube, self-install emitters



Parts



Drip Tape for Linear Gardening/Vegetable Beds



Application Examples



How do I choose what method?

Vegetable Garden/Linear

- Drip Tape
- Soaker hose
- Poly tubing with built in emitters
- Poly tubing with emitters to attach where needed

Mixed Perennial Beds/Trees

- (Poly tubing with built in emitters)
- Poly tubing with attached emitters
- Soaker hose

Helpful Drip Tips!

- Switch to drip slowly - Convert one section of yard at a time (to discover what works best for you and your plants). You will make mistakes and learn how to avoid them on a larger scale!
- Separate planting beds by water needs if possible to avoid watering to the level of the neediest plant.
- Convert your plants to drip slowly. Give them and most importantly their roots a chance to change with you.
- Practice good irrigation principals like: watering deeply and infrequently, during cooler times of the day and only when truly necessary. *I avoid my garden in the middle of the day during hot times --- some plants just can't keep up transpiration no matter how much water is available to them. Water if the ground is dry a finger length down and/or the plant still looks weary in the cool of the morning.

Resources:

- UC Master Gardener Website:
- <http://cagardenweb.ucanr.edu/Drought>
- Rain Bird <http://rainbird.com/>
- DripDepot.com
- Horizon, Landscaping supply, 301 Broadway, Sac
- Irrigation Supply, Woodland CA, Kentucky Ave,
- Peaceful Valley Farm & Garden Supply
 - Watering, Issue 5 of 9, 2015 Catalog Series



An example of a mixed bed converted to drip irrigation in 2014. Photo take April 2015

jsinski@velorist.org
530-661-1688 ext. 18