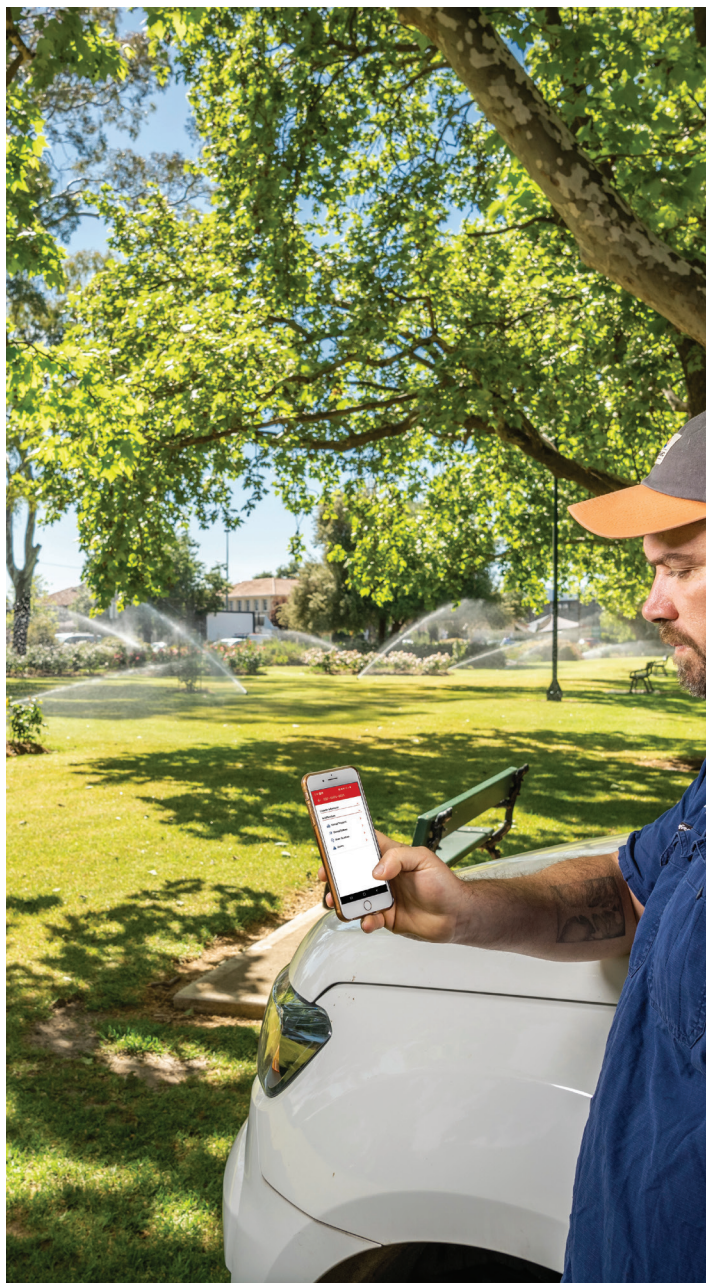




TORO®

DOES THIS INSTALLATION NEED A CENTRAL CONTROL IRRIGATION SYSTEM?

TOP REASONS TO GO WITH A COMMERCIAL CONTROL UPGRADE



When you are working with large-scale residential or commercial irrigation systems, it's important for you to note the goals of the customer. Depending on their needs, the customer may benefit from an upgrade with a central control irrigation controller. This is a system with the ability to manage and schedule irrigation from a centralized location, whether on a computer with specific software or from a mobile device.

"If there is an irrigation system that is getting too large for the staff or if there are intricate needs, central control irrigation may be the way to go," said Sergio Ramos, product manager for Toro's Precision Irrigation Business. "It gives people the ability to have eyes on everything in an irrigation system right from one location."

Here are the top two reasons to upgrade to a central control system.

LARGE INSTALLATION SIZE

In a residential setting, irrigation systems are often smaller with only a few controllers that don't need a commercial controller to manage it. But larger

installations such as ones in HOAs, municipalities, sports fields and other complexes would benefit from central control systems due to their size. This is because they have a higher number of touch points.

While there is no set limit to the number of controllers a system needs before moving to central control, Ramos said when systems reach six to 12 controllers, they typically benefit from switching to central control to manage schedules and programs remotely. Doing so allows for more efficient irrigation. With a centrally controlled system, customers can save money and personnel time since they don't have to send individuals out to do system checkups or make program changes. For example, if there are multiple controllers across a municipality that are not centrally controlled, every single controller would have to be manually changed when a schedule adjustment is needed. In a centrally controlled system, this is completed in a few seconds.



There are also central irrigation systems that have predictive weather technology that can shut down in advance of rain and other weather situations, which also saves time, water and money.

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS NEEDED FOR THE INSTALLATION

While size is a large reason for installing a central control system, another is for added features and capabilities. One of the most beneficial features is optimizing an irrigation schedule. As an example, if a user only has a small water window or specific days to irrigate, a central control system is designed to take that information into account and create a schedule to optimize the system.



Another feature is the central control system's ability to handle complex flow situations. For example, if a park has one point of connection for water, but there are multiple controllers sharing that flow source, a non-centrally controlled system would have to be manually managed with the risk of operating multiple controllers at once and exceeding water capacity. The software used by a central control system will automatically manage the complex schedule, turning on each controller and different zones so there is enough water to irrigate all areas.

Central control systems also make changing an irrigation schedule easy. With evapotranspiration, water needs for landscape changes daily so the software can take those changes in the climate into consideration and adjust the schedule accordingly.

Other notable features of a central control system include the ability to have multiple users to control the system and the ability for people to monitor the irrigation system remotely. If there is an issue with the system, the irrigation manager can be notified immediately to address quickly.

WHY TORO?

When it comes to installing irrigation at a commercial project, Toro is there to serve all your needs, whether for a municipality, HOA, sports complex or other large landscape.

“From the beginning all the way through the life of that system, Toro is there to support,” Ramos said. “Whether in the form of service support, having direct access to local sales managers or even sending someone out into the field to assist, we are there for our customers 100% of the time.”

Along with support, Toro has a variety of different offerings and products based on irrigation system needs. Toro’s innovative and research-backed products will help you create an efficient and long-lasting irrigation system. Plus, Toro central control products are designed with the end-use in mind making them simple to use. This is particularly true for Toro’s

premier central control app, Promax™ Connect, which has an interface that is easy to understand and can manage the system from a mobile device

If you want more information about central control systems, reach out to your local Toro representative or find more information at the Toro website.

