

PREFERRED BY PROFESSIONALS WORLDWIDE

ESP-LX+ and ESP-LXi+

Installation, Programming & Operation Guide



Indoor / Outdoor	Indoor
ESP-6LX+	ESP-8LXi+
ESP-8LX+	ESP-12LXi+
ESP-12LX+	ESP-16LXi+
ESP-16LX+	
ESP-241 X+	

WARNING: A CIRCUIT BREAKER OR CUTOFF SWITCH IS TO BE PROVIDED IN THE FIXED WIRING TO ISOLATE THE CONTROLLER."

MEMORY IS RETAINED BY A BATTERY WHICH IS TO BE DISPOSED OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL REGULATIONS.

CAUTION ICONS

The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electronic shock to people.



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the product.

LX+ and LXi+ Series Controllers

The ESP (Extra Simple Programming) -LX+, -LXi+ Series Controller is an irrigation timing system for residential and light commercial use.

The ESP-LX+ comes in 6-, 8-, 12-, 16-, or 24-station models, designed for either indoor or outdoor use. The ESP-LXi+ comes in 8-, 12-, or 16-station models, for indoor use only. Both models have the following features:

- · Four programs, with independent watering days
- · Up to six start times per program per watering day
- Battery backup for program storage
- Rain delay, from 1 to 14 days
- · Programmable delay between stations
- · Option to set any day of the month as non-watering
- Test program for all stations
- Diagnostic circuit breaker
- Hookups for rain or moisture sensors with built-in override switch
- Water budgeting for each program
- Removable front panel, programmable under battery power
- · Electrical surge protection and 3-year warranty

Controller Stations

Your ESP-LX+, LXi+ Series controller is an electronic clock that controls when your sprinkler system turns on, and how long the sprinklers run. The controller has several stations connected to it, as shown in the illustration below. Each station is connected to a remote control sprinkler valve.

The valve opens when it receives power from the controller, and the sprinklers connected to that valve turn on. When these sprinklers have run for their programmed time, the controller shuts off the valve and opens the next valve in sequence.

For example, the illustration shows that station 1 is currently watering. When station 1 is finished, the controller will shut it off and start station 2. In the same way, station 3 will begin watering when station 2 is finished.

NOTE: ESP-LX+ and -LXi+ controllers let you set a delay between stations. For example, if you set a one-minute delay, station 1 will run until finished, followed by a one-minute delay. Then station 2 will operate, followed by a one-minute delay.



Controls, Switches, and Indicators

The illustration shows the controls, switches, and indicators on the ESP-LX+ controller, including:

- Fault LED flashes when the controller senses a station short circuit.
- **Reset Button** used to turn off the Fault LED after the fault has been corrected.
- ECD Display during normal operation, displays the time of day; during programming, shows the result of your commands; during watering, shows the station that is running and the minutes remaining in its run time.
- Manual Start / Advance Button used to start a program manually or to manually advance watering from one station to the next. Also used to make program changes.
- PGM Button used to select watering program A, B, C, or D-drip.
- Arrow / ON-OFF Buttons used to set times and days, and to make program changes.
- Programming Dial used to turn the controller off and on, and for programming.
- Watering Suspended by Sensor LED glows when watering is prevented by a sensor.
- Sensor Bypass Switch used to tell the controller to obey or ignore input from a sensor system. (Sensor systems are optional.)
- Stations Slide Switch used to select one of the station rows around the Programming Dial. For 12-, 16-,





PROGRAMMING THE CONTROLLER

Definitions

Programming is the process of telling the controller exactly when and how long you want to water. The controller opens and closes the remote control valves according to the program you set.

Each program contains:

• Watering days - the specific days of the week on which watering takes place (for example, Monday, Wednesday, Friday), or the watering interval (for example, every third day, or only on even or odd numbered days of the month).

• **Start time(s)** - the time(s) of day that the program begins; this is the time that the first station in the program begins watering; all other stations in the program then follow in sequence.

NOTE: The term "start time" refers to the time that a program starts - not to the time that each individual station begins to run.

• Run time - the number of minutes (or hours and minutes) that each station runs.

Programming Under Battery Power

If you wish, you can remove the front face panel of the controller and program the unit under battery power. This feature can be useful if the controller is installed in an area that is not readily accessible. This feature also allows you to enter program information before installing the controller at the job site.

Programming Checklist

To program the ESP-LX+ controller for the first time, we recommend that you complete the following steps in order. For your convenience, a check-off box (\Box) is provided for each step.

NOTE: To clear ALL program information, turn the dial to OFF. Then hold down the ON and MAN START / ADV. buttons for about seven seconds. You may then completely reprogram the controller.

Fill out Programming Chart.			ramn	ning Chart.	Page 5
Set time and date.				2.	Page 6
For each program:					Page 7
А	В	С	D	Select program (A, B, C, or D-drip).	Page 7
				Set watering schedule.	Page 7
				Set station run times.	Page 9
				Set program start time(s).	Page 9
				Set water budget (optional).	Page 10
				Set station delays (optional).	Page 11
Set master valve / pump starts for each station (optional).				/ pump starts for each station (optional).	Page 12
Set rain delay (optional).				otional).	Page 12
Set calendar day(s) ON/OFF (optional).				(s) ON/OFF (optional).	Page 13
Set sensor system and switch (optional).				n and switch (optional).	Page 13
Run test program (optional).				ı (optional).	Page 14
Set controller to automatic operation.					Page 15

Fill Out Programming Chart

Before you being programming, fill out the ESP-LX+, LXi+ Series Programming Chart and attach it to the inside of the controller door. A sample Programming Chart is shown on the next page.

• Write a brief description of the sprinklers or plant zones covered by each station on the controller.

- Indicate which stations drive a master valve or booster pump relay by writing "ON" in the MV / Pump column. Write "OFF" for all other stations.
- In the Program "A" column, mark the watering day cycle. For a custom cycle, write the specific days of the week (e.g., M, TU). For a cyclical schedule, write the cycle period (e.g.: "CYC 3" means every third day). For ODD/EVEN-day watering, write ODD or EVEN.

Inter the watering time (in hours and minutes) for each station you want assigned to Program A.

• Enter the start time for Program A. Although only one start time is needed to run the program, you may enter up to five more start times for each program.

Fill Out Programming Chart (Continued)



NOTE: The start time applies to the program, not to the individual stations assigned to the program. In this example, Program A begins watering at 8:00 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Station 1 runs for ten minutes, followed by Station 2 for 20 minutes, Station 3 for 20 minutes, and Station 4 for 5 minutes. The entire program will take about an hour to run.

Inter the station delays for Program A. A station delay is the amount of time between the end of one station's operation and the beginning of the next station's operation. Station delays can be used to allow a water well to recover or slow-closing valves to turn off completely. If neither of these situations applies to your site, leave the station delay set to 0. A station delay setting applies to all stations on the program.

In the sample chart, Program A has a one-minute delay between stations. When Station 1 ends, the controller will wait one minute before starting Station 2. There will also be a one-minute delay between Station 2 and Station 3, and between Station 3 and Station 4.

Repeat steps 3 through 6 for Program B, C, and D-drip.

NOTE: Stations assigned to Program "D" cannot be used in any other programs. See page 6 for more information.

		Program "A"	Program "B"	Program "C"	Program "D"	
	Schedule	M, TU, TH, S A	CYC 3	ODD	EVEN	
	Start 1	- 8:00 AM	9:50 AM	7 .00 A M	9:00 AM	
	Start 2			9 .00 A M		
(Start 3			11 .00 A M		
	Start 4			2 .00 P M		
	Start 5			4.00 PM		
	Start 6			8:00 PM		
	Station Delay	1 m i n		2 min		
Description						MV / Pump
FRONT SPRAYS	Station 1	10 min				01/
L. F RO NT RO TOR	Station 2	2 0 m i n				ON
R. FRONT ROTOR	Station 3	2 0 m i n				ON
SHRUBS	Station 4	5 m i n	10 m i n			ON
L. BACK ROTORS	5 Station 5		10 m i n			ON
R. BACK ROTOR	5 Station 6		10 min			ON
BA CK S PRA YS	Station 7		1 <i>0</i> min			ON
MOM'S RO SES	Station 8			2 0 m i n	60 m i n	OFF
NOC EVECTIVE	ENT Station 9			20 min	60 min	OFF

Set Time

Before you can program the controller, you must set its internal clock to the correct time and date.

- Turn the dial to "TIME/CALENDAR."
- O The hour digits in the display flash.
- **B** Press \hat{U} or \hat{V} to set the current hour.
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The minutes digits in the display flash.
- **\bigcirc** Press 1 or \oiint to set the current minute.

Set Date

- Press "MAN. START/ADV." 0
- A new display appears, showing the day, month, and year. The month flashes.
- **9** Press \hat{T} or \bar{V} to set the current month.
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The day number flashes in the display. Ø
- **O** Press \hat{T} or \mathbb{Q} to set the current day of the month.
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- 8 The year flashes in the display.
- Press \hat{T} or \bar{V} to set the current year. Ø
- You are finished setting the time and date. Turn the 0 dial to "AUTO."





Select Program

Four programs are available in the ESP-LX+, LXi+ Series controller: A, B, C, and D-drip. Multiple independent programs let you enter schedules to meet the requirements of different types of plant materials, soils, slopes, shady or sunny areas, etc.

The D-drip program is designed for drip irrigation equipment. Stations assigned to the D-drip program cannot be assigned to any other program. The D-drip program can overlap, or run concurrently, with programs A, B, or C.

Programs A, B, and C are not allowed to overlap each other. If they are programmed to overlap, programs A, B, or C will "stack" (run in consecutive order upon the completion of the program in progress).

Program "stacking" prevents excessive flow demand and low water pressure caused by having too



NOTE: It is easier to select a program and program it completely. Jumping from program to pro-

Select Program (Continued)

- Turn the dial to "AUTO."
- Press "PGM" to cycle through the available programs. The program indicator on the far left side of the display shows which program is currently selected; this will disappear after 15 seconds.

Set Watering Day Cycle

Each program can operate in one of four watering day cycles:

1.CUSTOM waters on the days of the week you select. See the instructions below.

2.CYCLICAL waters on a selected daily interval (for example, every other day, or every third day).

3.ODD waters only on odd-numbered days of the month.

4.EVEN waters only on even-numbered days of the month.

Custom

To set a custom cycle:

- Turn the dial to "DAY CYCLE."
- The display shows the currently selected program. If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- Press û or ¹/₂ until "CUSTOM" appears in the display
- Turn the dial to "MON."
- The display shows the selected day and either "ON" or "OFF." ON means the selected day is a watering day. OFF means watering doesn't take place on that day.
- **6** Press \hat{U} or \hat{V} to set the day ON or OFF.
- Turn the dial to the next day of the week. Repeat steps 5 and 6 until you have set each day of the week ON or OFF.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."

Cyclical

To set a cyclical schedule: (diagrams are on the next page)

- Turn the dial to "DAY CYCLE."
- The display shows the currently selected program. If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- Press ☆ or ↓ until "CYCLIC" appears in the display
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The display shows the number of days remaining until a watering day and the number of days in the cycle. The "DAY CYCLE" digit flashes.







Cyclical (Continued)

- O Press û or [⊕] to set the number of days in the cycle. For example, if you want to water every other day, set the day cycle to "2." If you want to water every third day, set the day cycle to "3."
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The DAYS REMAINING digit flashes.
- Press û or ¹/₂ to set the number of days remaining before the next watering day. "0" means that today is a watering day. So if you want watering to begin tomorrow, set the days remaining to "1."
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."



Odd/Even Cycle

To set an odd/even cycle:

- Turn the dial to "DAY CYCLE."
- The display shows the currently selected program. If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- Press ☆ or ∜ until "ODD" or "EVEN" appears in the display
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."







NOTE: If you do not want to water on the 31st of any month (a restriction imposed in some local areas), you must set the 31st day OFF. See page 13 for instructions.

X Set Station Watering Times

You can set any station to run from 0 to 12 hours. For the first two hours, you can set the watering time in one-minute increments. For the remaining 10 hours, you can set the watering time in 10-minute increments.

- On 12-, 16-, and 24-station models, set the "STATIONS" slide switch to the block of stations you want to set.
- Turn the dial to the station number you want in the "WATERING TIME PER STATION" section of the dial.
- The display shows the program, the station number, and the currently set watering time. If the station has been included in another program, "USED" appears in the display.



NOTE: If "USED" appears, you can still set a watering time for the station unless the station has been previously assigned to the D-drip program. Stations assigned to the D-drip program cannot be used by any other program.

- If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- Press û or 4 to set the length of time you want the station to run. Repeat steps 2 5 for all stations. If you do not want to include a station in the program, set the run time to zero.
- After you have set the run time for the last station, turn the dial to "AUTO."





🕅 Set Program Start Times

You may assign up to six start times to a program per day. A program may start on any quarter hour. Multiple start times allow you to run a program more than once on each watering day.

For example if you are growing new lawn seed, you may want to water several times a day to keep the seedbed or top dressing damp.

NOTE: Start times apply to the entire program, not to an individual station.

- Turn the dial to "WATERING START TIMES." (Newer timers read: "PROGRAM START TIMES")
- The display shows the program, the number of the start time, and the start time itself. The start time number flashes.
- If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.

Please refer to the diagrams on the next page

Set Program Start Times (Continued)

- Press û or [‡] to select one of the six start time numbers for the program.
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The starting time flashes.
- - **NOTE:** Start times appear in chronological order. If you delete a start time by setting it to OFF, all later start times are automatically moved down one start time number.

When you set a start time for any start time number, the controller automatically reorganizes the start times so they appear in chronological order. The earliest start time will be number 1, and the latest start time will be number 6. This reorganizing only occurs after you move the dial off the "WATERING START TIMES" position.

- If you want to set additional start times, press "MAN.
 START/ ADV ." Repeat steps 2 7 to set the next start time.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."

Set Water Budget

The water budget feature lets you increase or decrease the run times of all stations on a program by a selected percentage. You can set the percentage from 0% to 300%, in increments of one percent. Each program can have a different water budget percentage.

You can use the water budget feature to cut back watering during cool winter months, or to increase watering during periods of unusual heat.

In addition, you can use the 0% setting to shut off a program temporarily.

Water budget percentages are calculated on the normal programmed run times for each station. For example, if a station is programmed to run for 10 minutes, and you set the water budget to 80%, the station will run for 8 minutes (80% of 10). If you set the water budget to 120%, that same station will run for 12 minutes (120% of 10).

- Turn the dial to "WATER BUDGET."
- The display shows the selected program and its current water budget percentage. The default is 100%.
- If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- **9** Press $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$ or $\boldsymbol{\mathbf{0}}$ to set the percentage.



Please refer to the diagram on the next page

Set Water Budget (Continued)

- To set water budgeting for another program, press "PGM" until the program appears. Then repeat step 4.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO." When the water budget for a program is set higher or lower than 100%, "WATER BUDGET" appears in the display whenever the program is selected.

Set Station Delays

The station delay feature lets you program a pause between the end of one station's watering operation and the beginning of the next station's operation. You may set a delay from one second to nine hours.

You can use station delays to allow a water well to recover or slow-closing valves to turn off completely. If neither of these situations applies to your site, leave the station delay set to 0.

You can set a different station delay for each program. A station delay applies to **all** stations on a given program.

Because the station delay feature is not used very often, it has been "hidden" behind the "TEST PROGRAM" position on the dial.

- Turn the dial to "TEST PROGRAM."
- The display shows "TEST" and the standard twominute run time for the test program.
- Press ☆ AND ↓ at the same time.
- "DELAY" appears in the display momentarily, followed by the delay time.
- If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- Press û or ^① to set the delay time. To cancel station delay, set the delay time to zero.



- To set delays for additional programs, press "PGM" until the program you want appears. Repeat step 6.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."

NOTE: During the delay between stations, the master valve / pump relay is not active. Instructions on selecting the master valve / pump relay, page 12.







Set MV / Pump Starts

You can assign a master valve relay or a pump start relay to each station. This means that any time the station operates, the relay assigned to it will also turn on. For example, if a specific station needs additional water pressure, you may want to activate a booster pump whenever that station turns on.



NOTE: Stations that have a master valve / pump relay assigned to them must be wired properly to activate the relay. See wiring instructions, page 21.

The MV / Pump start setting affects the station in all programs to which it is assigned.



CAUTION: If an unused station is turned on and activates a pump start relay, the pump may overheat or cause a pipe to burst. To prevent operating a pump with no flow (deadheading), make sure all unused stations have a zero run time.

- Turn the dial to "MV / PUMP SELECT."
- The display shows the station number and "MV ON" or "MV OFF." The station number flashes.
- Press ☆ or ↓ to select the station number you want to set.
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The "ON" or "OFF" flashes in the display.
- **O** Press \hat{T} for ON or \mathcal{J} for OFF.
- To set another station, press "MAN START/ADV." Repeat steps 2 6 for each station you want to set.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."

Set Rain Delay

ESP-LX+ and -LXi+ controllers let you manually delay watering for up to 14 days. For example, if rainy weather lasts for 2 or 3 days, you can set a Rain Delay of 5 or 6 days to let the landscape dry out before resuming normal watering schedules.

The Rain Delay setting applies to all programs. You can

- **NOTE:** The Rain Delay feature lets you set a delay period manually. If you have an automatic rain sensor attached to your system, see the instructions on page 13, and 14.
- Turn the dial to "RAIN DELAY."
- The display shows "RAIN DELAY" and the number of days remaining until the next watering day. If there is no Rain Delay set, zero will appear in the display above the words "DAYS REMAINING."
- Press û or ↓ to set the number of days to wait until the next watering day. To cancel a Rain Delay, set the number of days to zero.





• Turn the dial to "AUTO."

Set Calendar Days OFF

The Calendar Day OFF feature lets you:

- Temporarily suspend watering on a specific day of the month (selected up to 30 days in advance). For example, if you are planning an Independence Day picnic, you can set July 4th OFF, so no watering will occur. After July 4th passes, the fourth of each month will be automatically reset to ON.
- Permanently set the 31st day of any month OFF. This setting complies with local watering ordinances that prohibit watering on the 31st. Unlike settings for other days of the month, this setting remains in effect until you change it.



- Turn the dial to "TIME/CALENDAR."
- Press "MAN. START/ADV" five times.
- The display shows the day of the month and its ON or OFF setting. The day of the month flashes.
- Press û or ^① to select the day of the month and its ON or OFF setting. The day of the month flashes.
- Press "MAN. START/ADV."
- The ON or OFF setting flashes.
- Press \hat{T} to set the day ON or \mathbb{Q} to set the day OFF.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO." When an OFF day occurs, the display shows "NON" (for non-watering day), and no watering occurs. The next time the date occurs, normal watering schedules will resume (except for the 31st of the month, which remains OFF until you reset it manually).

Set Sensor System and Bypass Switch

ESP-LX+ and -LXi+ controllers let you connect a sensor system that interrupts watering when a "wet" condition is detected. For example, if you have a Rain Bird Rain Check™ sensor connected to the controller, it will prevent watering when rainfall reaches the shutoff level in the sensor's collector cup.



NOTE: For this feature to operate properly, the sensor must be connected according to the instruc-

• To activate the sensor system, set the sensor bypass switch to "ACTIVE." The controller will operate normally until a wet condition is detected by the sensor.



0 3 FALLT RESET AUTO WATER BUDGET ΞN H CUST**O**N SCHE**D** TEST **PRO**G**RA**M DAY CYCLE TIME/CALENDARD RAIN DELAY 🕷 ON OFF PGM ADV. MV/PUMP SELECT WATERING CC START TIMES WATERING TIM PER STATION 3 NG ESP-12-LX

4

2



Set Sensor System and Bypass Switch (Continued)

- **NOTE:** If no sensor is attached to the controller, make sure the supplied jumper connects the two SENSOR terminals on the controller's circuit board. If you set the sensor bypass switch to "ACTIVE" without a sensor or jumper connected to these terminals, the valves will not operate, and no watering will occur.See Sensor System Wiring for instructions.
- When the sensor detects a wet condition, power to the valves will be interrupted, and no watering will occur (including manual program or station operation.) The "WATERING SUSPENDED BY SENSOR" indicator will light up.
- To bypass the sensor, set the sensor bypass switch to "OFF." The controller will ignore any sensor signals, and normal watering schedules will resume. This setting also lets you run programs and stations manually.



Run Test Program

The controller's built-in test program will run each station that has a non-zero watering time assigned to it. When you run the test program, the controller will operate each station in numerical sequence, from lowest to highest. You can use this program to check out the operation of all the sprinklers in the system.

- Turn the dial to "TEST PROGRAM."
- The display shows "TEST" and the amount of time each station will run. The run time flashes. The default run time is two minutes per station.
- Press ☆ or ♣ to increase or decrease the run times for the TEST PROGRAM.
- Press "MAN. START / ADV." to start the test program.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."
- The display shows the number of the station that is running, along with its remaining run time. The controller runs each station in sequence, from lowest number to highest. The test program skips any stations that have zero watering times assigned to them. When the test program is finished, the controller returns to automatic operation.
- To cancel a test program after it has started, turn the dial to "OFF" for three seconds. Then turn the dial back to "AUTO."



OPERATING THE CONTROLLER

After you have programmed the controller, you will normally set it to operate automatically. You can also manually run one or more programs, and you can manually operate a single station or several sta-

Operate Controller Automatically

• Turn the dial to "AUTO." The controller runs the sprinklers according to the programs you have set.

Run Program(s) Manually

- **NOTE:** To run a program manually, please follow the instructions below carefully. Unlike other ESP controllers, ESP-LX+ and -LXi+ controllers have completely independent programs. Therefore, you must select a program before you press the MAN. START / ADV. button. You must press the MAN. START / ADV. before the program disappears.
- Turn the dial to "AUTO."
- The display shows the day of the week, time of day, and currently selected program.
- If the program you want is not displayed, press "PGM" until it appears.
- Press "MAN. START / ADV." to start the selected program.

If you want to run additional programs, repeat steps 3 and 4. Each program you select will run when the previous program has ended. You can "stack" all four programs to run in sequence.

To cancel all programs currently selected to run, turn the dial to "OFF" for three seconds. Then turn the dial back to "AUTO."

Run Station(s) Manually

- On 12-, 16-, and 24-station models, set the "STATIONS" slide switch to the block of stations containing the one you want to run.
- Turn the dial to the station number you want in the "WATERING TIME PER STATION" section of the dial.
- The display shows the currently selected program, the station number, and the station's run time. If the station is not used in the current program but is used in another program, the word "USED" will appear in the display instead of the run time.
- Press "PGM" until the display shows a run time for the station.
- Press "MAN. START / ADV." to operate the selected station. If you want to run additional stations, repeat steps 3 to 5. Each station you select will run when the previous station has ended.







Run Station(s) Manually (Continued)

- After selecting all the stations you want to run, turn the dial to "AUTO." The stations you have selected will operate for their programmed run times and then shut off automatically.
- To cancel the manual operation of all selected stations, turn the dial to "OFF" for three seconds. Then turn the dial back to "AUTO."

INSTALLING THE CONTROLLER

This section of the manual explains how to mount the controller on the wall and connect the wiring.

NOTE: This controller must be installed in compliance with local electrical codes.

The ESP-LXi+ controller must be installed indoors only. The "i" in the model number stands for "indoors."

Installation Checklist

To install the ESP-LX+ controller, we recommend that you complete the following steps in order. For your convenience, a check -off box (\Box) is provided for each step.

- □ Select location
- **Remove door and face panel**
- Mount controller on wall
- Connect main power wires
- Connect field wires
- Connect sensor system (optional)
- Install battery

Select Location

Follow these guidelines to select a location for the controller:

• Select an area protected from vandalism, where the user can easily reach the controller. We recommend mounting the controller at eye level in a utility room.



NOTE: To minimize electromagnetic interference, select a location at least 15 feet (4,6 m) away from high-draw motors such as air conditioners, refrigerators, or pool pumps.

Select a location that has access to 120-Volt AC electrical power or 230-Volt AC electrical power (as required, ESP-LXi +).

Please refer to the diagram on the next page



- Choose a flat, stable, vertical surface. Allow enough clearance for electrical conduit and connections at the bottom of the plastic cabinet.
- Allow at least 9½" (24,2 cm) of horizontal clearance so the hinged cabinet door can swing fully open to the left.
- Allow at least 6³/₄" (17,2 cm) of clearance above the cabinet door so the hinge pin can be removed to service the controller.

Remove Door and Face Panel

Before you mount the controller, we recommend that you remove the door and face panel. Although these steps are not absolutely necessary, they will make installation more convenient.

- Open the door and swing it to the left. If necessary, unlock the door with the supplied key.
- Flip the upper tip of the hinge pin out of the groove in the door so it is pointing at you.
- Support the door and slide the hinge pin upward until it clears the hinges. Then remove the door.
- Open the face panel by grasping its lower right corner and swinging it to the left.
- Disconnect the ribbon cable by grasping it along its two flat sides. Then pull the cable gently out of its connector.
- Unplug the two-wire harness by releasing the latch on the side of the connector. Then pull the connector away from the terminal board.
- Press down on the upper flexible hinge to release the hinge knob from its hole in the cabinet.
- Pull the lower hinge knob out of its hole and remove the panel.







Mount Controller on Wall

The ESP-LX+ has four mounting holes on the back of the cabinet - three "keyhole" slots at the top of the cabinet and one circular hole at the bottom of the cabinet.

- To install the controller on a flat wall surface, use the left and right keyhole slots at the top of the cabinet.
- To install the controller on a narrow stud, use the center keyhole slot.
- For all installations, use the small round hole at the bottom of the cabinet.
- Hold the controller (at eye level) against the mounting surface. Use a pencil to mark the position of the holes on the mounting surface. Then remove the controller cabinet.
- On flat wall surfaces, drive an appropriate fastener for the type of wall into the two outside keyhole marks.
- For narrow stud installations, drive an appropriate fastener for the type of wall into the middle keyhole mark.
- Use a nail to tap a small pilot hole on the mark for the lower mounting hole. However, DO NOT drive a fastener into this location yet.
- Use the keyhole slot(s) to hang the controller cabinet on the fasteners. Make sure the shafts of the fasteners are well up in the narrow part of the keyholes.
- Drive the last fastener through the lower mounting hole. Verify that the cabinet is secure. If necessary, tighten the fasteners in the upper keyhole slot(s).

Connect Main Power Wires

Please refer to the diagrams on the next page

ESP-LX+ (Outdoor / Indoor Controller)



NOTE: To connect main power wires on the ESP-LXi+ indoor-only controller, see the instructions on page 20.

The ESP-LX+ controller has an internal transformer that reduces standard supply voltage (117 VAC in U.S. models; 230 VAC in international models) to 24 VAC to operate the valves connected to the controller. You will need to con-

WARNING: To prevent electrical shock, make sure all supply power is OFF before connecting these wires. Electrical shock can cause severe injury or death.

All electrical connections and wiring runs must be made according to local building codes.



Connect Main Power Wires (Continued)

- With the door and face panel removed, locate the high-voltage compartment in the lower left corner of the controller cabinet.
- Remove the screw on the right edge of the compartment cover. Then swing the cover open to expose the transformer's primary input wires.
- If you wish to bring the power supply wires through the wall on which you mount the controller, use the ½" (1,3 cm) knockout in the rear of the cabinet. Also remove the circular cutout in the flame-retardant fiberboard liner at the rear of the high-voltage compartment. For safety purposes, be sure to seal the unused entry at the bottom of the cabinet.
- Attach a ½" (1,3 cm) conduit fitting to the bottom entrance of the high-voltage compartment. Then attach conduit to the fitting.
- Bring three supply wires from the power source through the conduit into the high-voltage compartment. Strip the insulation from the incoming wires to expose about ½" (1,3 cm) of bare wire.
- Using a code-approved wire connector, connect the wires as follows:

On 117-120 VAC models (U.S.), connect the black supply wire ("hot") to the black transformer wire.

On 230 VAC models (international), connect the brown supply wire ("hot") to the brown transformer wire.

 On 117-120 VAC models (U.S.), connect the white supply wire ("neutral") to the white transformer wire.

On 230 VAC models (international), connect the blue supply wire ("neutral") to the blue transformer wire.

 On 117-120 VAC models (U.S.), connect the green supply wire ("ground") to the green transformer wire.

On 230 VAC models (international), connect the greenwith-yellow-stripe supply wire ("ground") to the greenwith-yellow-stripe transformer wire.



NOTE: The ground wires MUST be connected to provide electrical surge protection.

• Verify that all connections are secure. Then close the cover of the high-voltage compartment and secure it with the screw.



ESP-LXi+ (Indoor-Only Controller)

The ESP-LXi+ controller (117 VAC model only) has an external transformer that reduces standard supply voltage to 24 VAC to operate the valves connected to the controller.

You will need to connect the tree wires from the transformer to the vertical terminal strip in the controller cabinet.

CAUTION: To avoid electrical shock, do **NOT** plug in the transformer until you have connected its cable to the controller. If the transformer is plugged in while the cable is not attached, any contact between the three forked connectors will blow the transformer's internal fuse. A blown transformer fuse cannot be repaired.

All electrical connections and wiring runs must be made according to local building codes

- Make sure the transformer is **NOT** plugged in.
- Feed the three forked transformer wires through the bottom left hole in the cabinet. Then pull about 12 inches of the cable up into the controller cabinet.
- Tie a loose overhand knot in the cable just inside the controller to prevent any strain on the connector terminals.
- On the vertical terminal strip, connect the green forked wire to the terminal labeled "GND."

NOTE: The green ground wire MUST be connected properly to provide electrical surge protection.

- Connect one of the remaining two forked wires to one of the terminals labeled "24 VAC." (In some units, these two terminals are labeled "ORN.") Connect the last forked wire to the other terminal labeled "24 VAC." Polarity of these two wires is not important. You may connect either wire to either terminal.
- Verify that all connections are secure. Then plug the transformer into any standard three-prong grounded 117 VAC electrical outlet.







Connect Field Wires

Field Wire Entrances

The ESP-LX+ cabinet has three entrances for routing field wires from the valves. Two are located on the underside of the cabinet, and the third is located on the back of the cabinet.

- The underside of the cabinet has a hole sized for a 1" (2,6 cm) PVC male adapter so you can easily install a 1" (2,6 cm) PVC pipe or conduit for the valve wires.
- A larger knockout for a 1¼" (3,2 cm) PVC male adapter is molded into the underside of the cabinet, surrounding the 1" (2,6 cm) hole. You may need this larger hole if you are using #14 gauge wire or larger.

To use the larger hole, turn the cabinet upside down. Place the blade of a slot-head screwdriver in the groove around the knockout. Then firmly tap the handle of the screwdriver to punch in the knockout. You may need to punch the groove in two places.

If you wish to route the field wires through the wall on which the controller is mounted, use the 1" (2,6 cm) knockout on the back of the controller cabinet. Use a screwdriver to punch out the knockout, as described in step 2.

Station Valve Wiring

Connect each valve by its own separate power wire to one of the numbered terminals on the ESP-LX+ terminal strip, as shown in the illustration. You may connect up to two 24 VAC, 7VA solenoid valves per station.

To speed up installation, you can slide the stripped end of the valve wire under the "pinch plate" at each terminal. The pinch plate eliminates the need to wrap the wire around the screw head.

NOTE: The ESP-24LX+ is equipped with a special screwless terminal strip for valve wire connections.

Connect a common wire to one of the leads on each valve. Connect the other end of the common wire to the COM terminal on the flip strip. Wire used to connect the valves must be code-approved for underground installation.

Master Valve Wiring

NOTE: Complete this section only if your system requires a master valve (an automatic valve installed on the mainline pipe upstream from the station valves) or a pump relay. The controller does NOT provide main power for a pump.

Connect the master valve wiring to the MV terminal and COM terminal as shown in the illustration.



Sensor System Wiring



NOTE: Complete this section **only** if your system has an automatic rain sensor.

If you are not connecting a sensor to the controller, make sure the supplied jumper is installed on the two SENSOR terminals on the controller's vertical terminal strip.

- Most sensors have two wires or two terminals designed to be connected to the valve common wire. Instead of connecting to the valve common wire, connect these wires or terminals to the "SENSOR" terminals on the ESP-LX+ or -LXi+ controller.
- Route the pair of wires out of the controller cabinet to the sensor system.
- Follow the sensor system's directions for placing and connecting moisture probes, setting the rain shutoff level, and making final adjustments.

Install Battery

The 9-Volt rechargeable nickel metal hydride (NiMH) battery supplied with the controller provides power to maintain the current time and date during a power outage. Program information is maintained independently of battery power. So if a prolonged power outage outlasts the life of the battery, you will only have to update the time and date after power is restored.

NOTE: Memory is retained by a battery which is to be disposed of in accordance with local regulations.

The battery also lets you program the controller with the face panel detached from the cabinet power supply.

- If you have removed the face panel and cabinet door for a new installation, reinstall them now. Be sure to connect the ribbon cable and two-wire harness from the face panel to the controller's circuit board, as described above.
- Loosen the screw on the battery cover, and slide the battery out of its compartment. If you are replacing a used battery, discard the old battery properly. The replacement battery must be a 9-Volt rechargeable NiMH battery.
- If the battery has a protective cover installed over its terminals, remove the cover. Then connect the two-wire battery clip to the terminals.
- Slide the battery back into its compartment, and tighten the screw.
- The controller will fully charge the supplied NiMH battery in approximately 48 hours. The controller will continue to trickle-charge the battery whenever the controller is supplied with electrical power.







CONTROLLER TROUBLESHOOTING

SYMPTOM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	CORRECTION		
Program does not come on automat- ically.	1. Dial is set to OFF position.	Set the dial to AUTO.		
	2. Start time has not been entered for the program.	Turn the dial to WATERING START TIMES and check the start times en- tered for the program. If the start time is missing, enter it as described in the manual.		
	3. Rain Delay feature is preventing wa- tering. (Display shows "RAIN DELAY" and "DAYS REMAINING.")	If the Rain Delay feature has been set properly, no correction is needed. To cancel Rain Delay, see page 12.		
	4. Today may not be a watering day for the program. (Display shows "DAYS REMAINING" to the next watering day.)	Press the PGM key to check the days remaining until the next watering day for each program.		
	5. Day Off feature is preventing water- ing. (Display shows "NON," followed by the time of day.)	If the Day Off feature has been set properly, no correction is needed. To run a program manually (even on a Day Off) see page 15. To change the Day Off feature, see page 13.		
	6. Program's Water Budget is set to 0%.	Set the Water Budget above 0%. See page 10.		
Display shows a station operating, but no watering occurs.	7. Sensor system is preventing irriga- tion. (WATERING SUSPENDED BY SENSOR light is lit.)	Turn the sensor bypass switch to OFF. If watering resumes, the sensor is oper- ating properly, and no correction is nec- essary.		
	8. No sensor or jumper is connected to the controller's SENSOR terminals, and the SENSOR BYPASS switch has been set to ACTIVE.	Turn the sensor bypass switch to OFF. To prevent future occurrences, install the supplied jumper on the controller's SENSOR terminals.		
Station does not come on.	9. No run time has been set for the station.	Turn the dial to the station number, and press the PGM key to check the run times set for the station. To add a run time see page 9.		
	10. A short circuit in the solenoid or valve wiring has disabled the station. (Display shows "FAULT" and a station number, and the FAULT light in the upper left corner of the face panel is lit.)	Identify and repair the fault in the cir- cuit. Then press the RESET button, and start the station manually. See page 15 for instructions		
	11. Sensor system is preventing irriga- tion. (WATERING SUSPENDED BY SENSOR light is lit.)	See correction for Cause #7.		
	12. Start time has not been entered for the program to which the station is assigned.	See correction for Cause #2.		
	13. Water Budget for the station's program is set to 0%.	See correction for Cause #6.		

CONTROLLER TROUBLESHOOTING (Continued)					
SYMPTOM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	CORRECTION			
Display shows "PWR OFF."	14. No power is being supplied to the controller.	Verify that the controller is plugged into a working outlet. Check the main power supply to the controller.			
Display shows "FUSE."	15. Fuse has blown.	Disconnect the controller from its power source. Identify and repair the circuit fault that caused the fuse to blow. Then replace the fuse with the spare fuse supplied on the inside of the face panel, just above the 9-Volt battery. For the ESP-LX+, use a 1.5A SLO-BLO fuse. For the ESP-LXi+, use a 1.25A SLO- BLO fuse. Reconnect power to the con- troller and reset the time and date.			
Display shows "MV FAULT."	16. An electrical fault has occurred in the master valve or pump start relay circuit.	Identify and repair the fault in the mas- ter valve or pump start relay circuit. Then press the RESET button in the upper left corner of the face panel. To verify that the problem has been cor- rected, manually start a program or run the TEST program. See page 14.			
Display is partially or completely blank.	17. An electrical surge or lightning strike has damaged the controller's electronics.	Turn off the controller and disconnect the 9-Volt battery. Let the controller sit for two or three minutes. Then recon- nect the battery and restore power to the controller. Reset the time and date. If the electrical surge did no permanent damage, the controller will accept pro- gramming commands and function nor- mally. If the controller does not operate properly, contact Rain Bird Technical Assistance at 800-RAIN-BIRD.			
Watering starts when it should not.	18. MAN START / ADV. key has been pressed.	To cancel a program that has been manually started, set the dial to OFF for three seconds. Then set the dial back to AUTO.			
	19. An unwanted start time may have been entered.	Turn the dial to WATERING START TIMES and check to see if any pro- grams have an unwanted start time. See page 9 for instructions on setting and eliminating start times.			
	20. D-Drip program may be running concurrently with another program.	If the D-Drip program has been set properly, no correction is needed. The D-Drip program is designed to run whether or not the A, B, or C program is running. To check start times, see page 9.			

Clearing All Program Information

To clear all program information from the controller, turn the dial to OFF. Then hold down the ON and MAN START / ADV. buttons for about seven seconds. You may then completely reprogram the controller.

This controller generates radio frequency energy and may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- 1. Reorient the receiving antenna.
- 2. Move the controller away from the receiver.
- 3. Plug the controller into a different outlet so that the controller and receiver are on different branch circuits.

experienced radio / television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful:

"How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems."

This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.



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