



### RainBird ESP MC Controller



**Multiple Programs** This controller has 4 programs (A,B,C,D). This allows for unique programs (Shrub, lawn, new sod, etc.) This feature saves water because it allows for different schedules such as full sun areas vs. shady areas. Plants typically need less water than lawns so they could be watered twice a week vs. 3 or 4 times a week for lawns. Multiple programs let you account for these differences. For example, the button shown in the picture labeled “PGM” selects a program to work with. The display shows which program is active. Here it is showing Program **B**. The dial is set to Watering Start Time, but when creating any schedule feature such as runtime, start time or watering days you will need to make sure the correct program is active when creating or changing that specific schedule feature.



**Cycle-Soak** Many sprinkler systems apply water faster than the soil can receive it. This causes run-off, which is a major cause of water waste. Using cycles or multiple starts helps eliminate this problem. For example, if you need to water for 20 minutes you can split that up into two 10 minute segments with some time in between to let the water soak into the soil. On this controller it is done with the Cycle/Soak feature. Turn the dial to Cycle/Soak and select the station with which you wish to work (arrow keys). Press the Manual Start ADV key and use the arrow keys to set the watering time. Press the Manual Start ADV key again to select the soak time. Use the arrow keys to set the soak time. Return the dial to auto position.

For more information go to: [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) or call: 206-684-7283



*Saving Water Partnership*

*Seattle and Participating Area Water Utilities*

## *Conservation Controller* **Page 2** *Feature Instructions*



**Water Budget** Watering schedules should be changed as the weather does. This can be a time consuming effort were it not for the water budget or water percent adjustment feature. This feature allows you to change all of the watering times with one simple adjustment. As seen in the picture, turn the dial to Seasonal Adjust and a percentage number will appear on the screen. Select the program desired using the PGM button and then use the arrows to adjust the percentage number up or down. If you set your original schedule to the hottest time of year this becomes the 100 % setting. As the weather gets hotter or cooler you can then adjust your schedule as needed with just one adjustment. To find an accurate and real time percentage to use go to: [www.iwms.org](http://www.iwms.org) and look for the "Irrigation Index". You can easily develop a base watering schedule by going to [www.iwms.org](http://www.iwms.org) and go to "Calculators".



**Rain Sensor Use** In the Puget Sound area rain sensors are a "must have" for automatic systems. This device senses rainfall and then prevents watering if a preset amount of rain occurs. It is purchased separately and mounted on the eaves of the house where no obstructions will prevent rain from entering the device. (consult an irrigation professional for installation). In the lower left of the picture it shows the rain sensor bypass switch. This should be in the "active" position unless manual testing of the system is needed. There are rebates available for rain sensors through the Saving Water Partnership at [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org).

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