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› Rachio WiFi Smart Lawn Sprinkler Controller User Manual

Rachio 8ZULW-B

Rachio WiFi Smart Lawn Sprinkler Controller User Manual

Model: 8ZULW-B

1. INTRODUCTION

The Rachio WiFi Smart Lawn Sprinkler Controller (Model 8ZULW-B) is designed to provide intelligent and efficient lawn watering. This 8-zone controller connects to your home Wi-Fi network, allowing you to manage your sprinkler system from anywhere using a mobile application. Its advanced Weather Intelligence™ technology automatically adjusts watering schedules based on real-time weather conditions, helping to conserve water and maintain a healthy landscape.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- Ensure the power supply is disconnected before performing any installation or maintenance.
- Install the controller in a location protected from direct sunlight and extreme weather conditions, unless using an appropriate weatherproof enclosure (sold separately).
- All wiring should comply with local electrical codes. If unsure, consult a qualified electrician.
- Keep the device away from children and pets.
- Do not attempt to open or repair the controller yourself. Refer to qualified service personnel.

3. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- Rachio 8-Zone Smart Sprinkler Controller (2nd Generation)
- Power Adapter
- Mounting Hardware (screws and anchors for standard surfaces)
- Quick Start Guide

4. INSTALLATION

4.1 Mounting the Controller

Choose a suitable location for your Rachio controller. It should be near a power outlet and within Wi-Fi range. If installing

outdoors, a weatherproof enclosure is recommended. Use the provided mounting hardware to secure the controller to the wall.



Image: Rachio controller securely mounted on a wooden wall, showing its compact design.

4.2 Wiring the Controller

Before wiring, disconnect power to your old controller. The Rachio controller is compatible with 99% of existing sprinkler systems. Carefully remove the wires from your old controller, noting which zone each wire corresponds to. Connect the common wire (usually white or green) to the 'C' terminal on the Rachio. Then, connect each zone wire to its corresponding numbered terminal (1-8). If you have a master valve or pump relay, connect it to the 'M' terminal. Sensors (rain, soil, flow) can be connected to the 'S1' and 'S2' terminals.

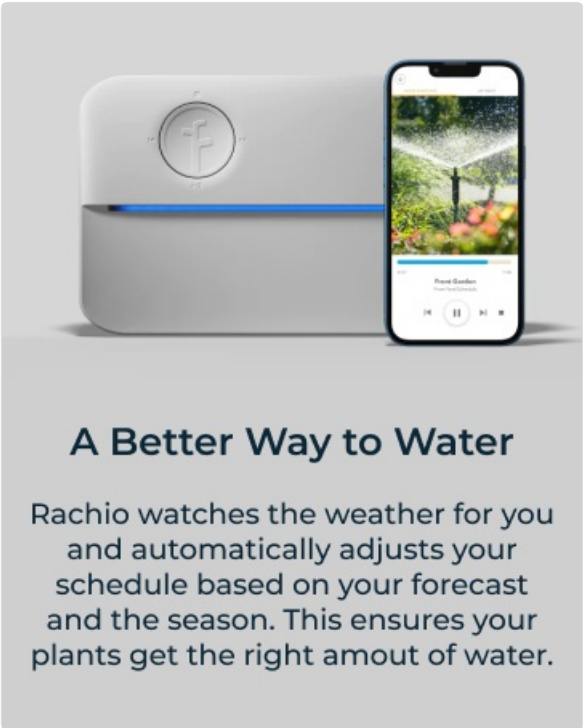


Image: Detailed view of the Rachio controller's wiring terminals, showing colored wires connected for different zones and common connections.



Image: The Rachio controller installed on an exterior wall with its wiring compartment open, revealing the connected wires. A green lawn and sprinkler are visible in the background.

5. SETUP AND CONFIGURATION

5.1 Downloading the Rachio App

Download the Rachio app from your smartphone's app store (available on iOS and Android). Create an account or log in if you already have one.

5.2 Connecting to Wi-Fi

Follow the in-app instructions to connect your Rachio controller to your home's 2.4GHz Wi-Fi network. The app will guide you through the process, which typically involves scanning a barcode on the controller and entering your Wi-Fi credentials. Ensure your Wi-Fi signal is strong at the controller's location.



Image: The Rachio controller shown alongside a smartphone, illustrating the mobile app interface for controlling the device.



Image: A user interacting with the Rachio mobile application on their smartphone, with the controller mounted on a wall and active sprinklers in the background, demonstrating remote control capabilities.

5.3 Creating Smart Schedules

Once connected, use the app to create customized watering schedules. You can define zones, plant types, soil types, sun exposure, and more. Rachio's Weather Intelligence™ will then automatically adjust these schedules based on local forecasts, rain, wind, and freeze conditions to optimize water usage.



Image: The Rachio controller paired with a smartphone displaying a smart watering schedule, emphasizing the automated and intelligent watering features.

6. OPERATING THE CONTROLLER

- ****Manual Runs:**** Initiate watering for specific zones directly from the app.
- ****Weather Intelligence™:**** The controller automatically skips watering cycles if rain, wind, or freezing temperatures are detected, preventing overwatering and saving money.
- ****Smart Home Integration:**** Control your Rachio system using voice commands with compatible smart home devices like Amazon Alexa.
- ****Usage Monitoring:**** View estimated outdoor water usage and track savings through the Rachio app.



Image: A person holding a smartphone displaying the Rachio app, with a green lawn being watered by sprinklers in the background, demonstrating the convenience of remote control.

7. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the controller with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Winterization:** In colder climates, it is recommended to disconnect the controller and drain your irrigation system to prevent freezing damage. Store the controller indoors during winter months.
- **Firmware Updates:** Ensure your controller's firmware is up to date through the Rachio app for optimal performance and new features.

8. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Controller not connecting to Wi-Fi	Weak Wi-Fi signal, incorrect password, 5GHz network.	Move router closer, check password, ensure 2.4GHz network is used. Try resetting the controller's network settings via the button on the device.
Zones not watering	Wiring issue, master valve off, schedule not active, Weather Intelligence™ skip.	Check wiring connections. Verify master valve is on. Check app for active schedules or Weather Intelligence™ skips (rain, freeze, wind). Manually run a zone to test.
App not responding	App glitch, internet connectivity issue.	Close and reopen the app. Check your phone's internet connection. Restart your phone.

For more detailed troubleshooting, refer to the official Rachio support website or the full User Guide PDF linked in the product documentation.

9. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** 8ZULW-B
- **Zones:** 8
- **Connectivity:** Wi-Fi (2.4GHz only)
- **Power Source:** Corded Electric (1.1E+2 Volts)
- **Dimensions:** 9.25"L x 1.5"W x 5.5"H
- **Weight:** 2.5 pounds

- **Material:** Plastic
- **Color:** White
- **Compatibility:** Master valve, pump relay, indexing valve, wired & wireless Normally Closed (NC) rain and soil sensors, wired flow sensors.

10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information and customer support, please refer to the official Rachio website or the documentation included with your product. You can also find additional resources, including the full Installation Manual and User Guide, via the links below:

- [Installation Manual \(PDF\)](#)
- [User Guide \(PDF\)](#)

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