A few tips and pointers:

1. Your lawn does not need as much water as you think.  If roots are deep and the turf has been adequately fed, turf can go longer periods of time without water and off-set any stresses.  Overwatering, especially early in the season results in shallow roots.
2. While watering during early morning hours is often recommended, it really makes little difference.
3. Deep and long roots are far more important than long grass.
4. Mulching is better than bagging.  With a lower regular height of cut on your mower, you may be able to mulch you clippings rather than remove them.  Todays turf varieties are bred for lower mowing heights.  Example – golf course rough is typically mowed at 1.5” – 2” in height.
5. Dry spots are often a soil issue.  Inconsistencies in soils can lead to inconsistent turf conditions.  While it may be too late to change soils, aerification helps open up areas that may consist of heavier soils like silt and clay which are common here in the Boise River flood plain.  When you aerify, let the remaining plugs dry out on the surface and then run your mower through them to break them up.
6. Too much thatch can also cause issues with water not all water reaching the soils and roots.  If you’ve been feeding your lawn on a regular basis, there is a chance you have too much thatch build up.  Verticut or power rake (not in the hot times) if that’s the case.
7. You can do the math.  Resources are available on-line to help you determine how much watering you should be doing.  The idea is to only water enough to replace what has been lost between waterings.  Variables include Et Rates (evapotranspiration rates) for our area, turf type, and precipitation rates of your specific sprinklers.