

WATER SAVINGS TIPS

Ways to Save Outdoors

- Reduce lawn size (lawns use 40-50% of our summer water).
- Reduce outdoor usage as much as possible.
- Enrich soils with 3-4 inches of compost worked into the top foot of soil prior to planting.
- Dethatch and aerate lawns for better water absorption. Clip lawns no shorter than 2 inches.
- Leave the grass clippings on the lawn. They're 90% water and provide nitrogen.
- Water only after 7:00 p.m. or before 10:00 a.m. to avoid excessive loss to evaporation.
- Use soaker hoses or drip systems.
- Adjust sprinklers so you're watering only what grows, not the street or the sidewalk.
- Check hoses and sprinkler systems for leaks and fix them promptly.
- Include a rain sensor and a soil moisture sensor in your automatic sprinkler system.
- Catch rainwater in barrels for thirsty plants.
- Use a broom to clean the driveway or patio, instead of the hose and precious water.
- Wash your car using a bucket of soapy water. Use a hose with a shut off nozzle just to rinse.

Ways to Save Indoors

- Fix leaks promptly little drips can waste lots of water.
- Install "water displacement devices" in your toilet tank if you have an older model toilet.
- Replace older toilets, newer toilets use only 1.5 gal to flush.
- Replace your showerhead with a low flow model.
- Capture shower warm-up water. Use it to water plants wash the floor or the car.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in your refrigerator, running tap water until its cold enough wastes water.
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
- In restaurants, accept water only if you want it. Not only will you save water you don't drink, you will save the water to wash the glass.