

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

OUTDOORS



DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS

Consider planting native, adapted, drought-tolerant plants. They are more pest resistant and require less water once established.



COLLECT RAINWATER

Save water and prevent runoff by harvesting rainwater. Buy or make your own rain barrel for collecting rainwater from your gutters, and use it to water your landscaping.



USE MULCH

Use mulch around flowerbeds, shrubs, bushes and trees. Mulch helps to prevent runoff and reduce evaporation which maintains moisture requiring less watering.



IRRIGATION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

Regularly inspect for leaks and repair promptly. Check sprinkler heads and valves to ensure they are not broken, clogged, blocked or cracked. Also, check to make sure each sprinkler head is positioned to water the correct areas.



USE A BROOM TO CLEAN

Don't use the water hose to clean or clear off streets, patios, decks, porches, driveways or sidewalks. A broom can get the job done just as easily and save water in the process.



WATER WISELY

Only water when needed. Research your specific landscape and water the recommended amount. Never water during the hottest part of the day, on windy days or when it has rained recently or there is rain in the forecast. If you have an irrigation system, consider installing a rain sensor.



USE A BUCKET WHEN WASHING YOUR CAR

Rather than running the water hose as you wash your car, fill a bucket with soapy water to wash and a bucket with clean water to rinse. Even better, consider washing your car on the grass with non-toxic soap.



HAND WATER

Watering by hand uses less water than most irrigation systems. Consider hand watering areas that require more water to ensure the water goes exactly where needed, preventing overwatering and runoff.