

**More than 50 percent of household water is used outdoors.**



**A water-wise landscape can thrive on 50 percent less water than turf grass.**

**Use Water Wisely...  
...Stop Runoff!**

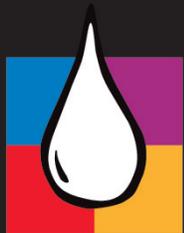


**Avoid water waste penalties**

**Water waste  
+ lack of rainfall  
+ regulatory drought**



**= water shortages**



**WATER  
USE IT  
WISELY**

**There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you.**

**See reverse side for 20 Ways to Use Water Wisely...**

# Water - Use It Wisely



## 20 Ways to Use Water Wisely...

1. Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- 2. Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours.**
3. Use a layer of organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and save hundreds of gallons of water a year.
- 4. Divide your watering cycle into shorter periods to reduce runoff.**
5. Only water your lawn when needed. You can tell this by simply walking across your lawn. If you leave footprints, it's time to water.
- 6. Direct rain gutter spouts and other runoff towards shrubs and trees, or collect and use for your garden.**
7. Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed.
- 8. Install a rain shut-off device on your automatic sprinklers to eliminate unnecessary watering.**
9. Reduce the amount of grass in your yard by replacing it with shrubs, ground cover, rock, granite, and/or mulch.
- 10. Water only as rapidly as the soil can absorb the water.**
11. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk.
- 12. Don't water your lawn on windy days. After all, sidewalks and driveways don't need water.**
13. Water your plants deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
- 14. Fertilizers increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.**
15. Remember to weed your lawn and garden regularly. Weeds compete with other plants for nutrients, light, and water.
- 16. Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant.**
17. Use a screwdriver as a soil probe to test soil moisture. If the soil is moist, you probably do not need to water.
- 18. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering. Only water plants when necessary.**
19. Aerate your lawn. Punch holes in your lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots rather than run off the surface.
- 20. Make sure your sprinklers are not misting in order to prevent water lost due to evaporation and wind drift.**

**There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you.**



**Need more tips?**  
**We've got resources for you!**  
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[www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com) • [www.h20house.org](http://www.h20house.org)

