



## Water Conservation in Your Garden & Landscape Checklist

- Water during the cool parts of the day.** Watering between 4am and 10am reduces evaporation and interference from wind; helps prevent the growth of fungus.
- Don't water the gutter & sidewalk.** Position your sprinklers in such a way that water lands on your lawn or garden, not on concrete, where it does no good. Avoid watering on windy days when much of your water may be carried off before it ever hits the ground.
- Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings.** Leaks outside the house may not seem as unbearable, however they can be just as wasteful as leaks in the house; even the smallest drip from a worn washer can waste 50 or more gallons of water a day.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it.** Watering frequently can be very wasteful as it doesn't allow for cool spells or rainfall that can reduce the need for watering. A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on some grass. It doesn't need water if the grass springs back up when you move. Grass roots should be deeper than 1" and will grow deeper if they need moisture; 2-4" depth ideal.
- Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants.** A layer of mulch will slow the evaporation of moisture.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.** There are many beautiful trees and plants that thrive with far less watering than other species.
- Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and steps.** Using a hose to push around a few leaves and scraps of paper can waste hundreds and hundreds of gallons of water; 150 gallon each time.
- Don't run the hose while washing your car.** Soap down your car with a pail of soapy water; then use a hose with a nozzle to rinse. Save 150 gallon each washing. Better yet take it to a car wash that recycles its water.
- Teach your children that your hose and sprinklers are not toys.** There are few things more cheerful than the sound of happy children playing under a hose or sprinkler on a hot day. Unfortunately, there are also few things more wasteful of precious water.
- Check sprinkler and drip systems for missing heads, holes, detached lines, and for the proper placement of drip emitters.** Our 2 and 4 legged family can easily wreak havoc with sprinkler system.

