

BEST PRACTICES



Waterwise Tips for a Healthy Lawn

Watering wisely can save you money on your water bill and improve the quality of your lawn!

Did you know you can conserve water by cutting your grass taller? A taller and thicker lawn retains moisture better, so you won't have to water as often. Set your mower height between 2 to 3 inches. Be sure to cut no more than one-third of the grass blade each time you mow.

Follow these easy watering basics to help save water and have a healthy lawn:

1. Water 1" per week, spread over two waterings.

- Don't overwater—overwatering can invite disease and pest problems.
- Allow root zone to partially dry out between waterings, which helps inhibit weed seed germination.
- Apply water only as fast as it can enter the soil surface.
- Water deeply to encourage deep rooting and drought tolerance.
- Keep track of measurable precipitation using a rain gauge, and mark it on your calendar

2. Water efficiently.

- Water when it is cool to avoid evaporation (early morning is best).
- Adjust water timers and routines with temperature changes—water less when it's cooler.
- Before watering, check soil for moisture at the root zone with a garden trowel, shovel or soil probe.
- Install a watering timer to prevent overwatering.
- Install a rain sensor to override your automatic sprinkler system controller during and after rain storms.

3. Let your lawn go golden (dormant)

- If you do decide to let your lawn go dormant, make sure to water 1 inch each rainless month*—spread over two waterings.

** Watering 1 inch each rainless month will help ensure your lawn recovers once the rain returns.*

Give Trees a Cool Drink This Summer

Over the last few years, Stream Team volunteers have planted 1,345 native trees and shrubs at Woodland Creek Community Park! To survive our hot and dry summers, these plants require supplemental watering for at least two years after they are planted.



Source: Stream Team News, Summer 2016