

Fayetteville Public Works Commission Water Conservation Tips for Homeowners

Seven Water Savings Tips for Homeowners

Looking for ways to conserve water in your landscape? There are a number of ways you can save water in your landscape this summer! Listed below are some tips to help you have a lush, green landscape...

1. Avoid over watering.

The best way to avoid over watering is to water a few short times for shorter periods. Consider taking 15 minute breaks in between watering sessions. The shorter periods will allow water to soak in, while reducing runoff.

2. Timing is everything.

Water between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m. – This is the best time to water because the sun is low, winds are calm and temperatures are cool. Afternoon conditions are not ideal for watering due to high temperatures and windy conditions. Watering during the evening is not ideal either because landscape can develop fungus while it remains wet overnight.

3. Consider drip irrigation.

Drip irrigation tends to be more water efficient than sprinklers. It applies water directly to the root which reduces water waste and prevents unwanted weeds from growing. Drip irrigation is best for shrub beds, trees, and gardens that need individual watering.

4. Map out your watering zones.

Map out your yard and landscape then take notes of the areas that receive more sunlight than others. Is there a particular area that receives more shade than other areas? Once your map is complete, identify the areas as very low water zones up to moderate water zones. Creating different zones will help to achieve more efficient use of water.

5. Be rain smart.

A great way to prevent over watering is to install a rain sensor! A rain sensor automatically shuts off your irrigation system when it detects moisture in your soil or rain. These devices are inexpensive and FPWC is currently offering a Rain Sensor Incentive Program. Take advantage while offer lasts.

6. Inspect your irrigation system.

Since lawns and gardens should be watered in the early morning hours, a problem may not be discovered until it is too late. Periodically check your sprinklers to make sure everything is working properly. A clogged head or a torn line can wreak havoc on your landscape and water bill.

7. Winterization.

Each fall you should winterize your irrigation system to keep it in top condition for the next spring and summer. To winterize your automatic irrigation system it's important to empty the system of water and turn it off for the season. Don't forget to winterize your backflow! This helps protect the backflow device from theft, freezing, or even bursting.