

OUTDOOR CONSERVATION

A SERVICE OF YOUR WATER SYSTEM

WATERING

LAWN WATERING AND OTHER OUTDOOR USES CAN ACCOUNT FOR ROUGHLY 50 TO 80 PERCENT OF YOUR WATER USE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. STUDIES SHOW THAT AS MUCH AS HALF OF THIS OUTDOOR USE IS WASTEFUL.

- DON'T OVER-WATER YOUR LANDSCAPE.
- USE LOW-ANGLE SPRINKLERS TO MINIMIZE EVAPORATION.
- DON'T WATER ON WINDY DAYS.
- SET SPRINKLERS TO WATER THE LAWN AND NOT SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS.
- USE DRIP IRRIGATION FOR SHRUB BEDS, GARDENS AND TREES.
- CHECK YOUR SPRINKLER OR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS REGULARLY FOR ANY LEAKS, AND FIX THEM.
- USE AN AUTOMATIC SHUTOFF NOZZLE TO ENSURE WATER IS NOT WASTED WHEN THE HOSE IS LEFT UNATTENDED.

MOWING

- DON'T CUT THE GRASS TOO SHORT. SHADED SOIL WILL NOT DRY OUT AS QUICKLY.
- MOW REGULARLY SO THAT ONLY 1/2 TO 3/4 OF AN INCH IS CUT OFF EACH TIME.
- LEAVE GRASS CLIPPINGS ON THE LAWN. GRASS CLIPPINGS REDUCE THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL, EXPENSIVE FERTILIZERS.

PLANTING

- USE MULCHES IN FLOWER AND SHRUB BEDS.
- ADD TWO TO FOUR INCHES OF ORGANIC MATERIAL. GREATER SOIL DEPTH WILL INCREASE THE ABILITY OF THE SOIL TO RETAIN MOISTURE.
- NATIVE AND ADAPTIVE PLANTS USE LESS WATER AND ARE RESISTANT TO LOCAL PLANT DISEASES AND PESTS.
- DIFFERENT PLANTS REQUIRE DIFFERENT AMOUNTS OF WATER. PLACE YOUR PLANTS ACCORDING TO THEIR WATER NEEDS. THIS WAY, YOU WON'T WASTE WATER ON PLANTS THAT DON'T NEED IT.