



Tips for Water Conservation

Lawn Care:

- Raise the height of the blade on the lawn mower so that grass is never less than 1.5" – longer grass has stronger roots, crowds out weeds, requires less water and helps the soil retain moisture longer;
- Leave the grass clippings on the lawn – grass clippings contain valuable nutrients which help grass develop stronger root systems and help retain moisture;
- Keep lawn mower blades sharp – dull blades tear grass and cause damage which can lead to heat stress and disease;
- A thorough, less frequent watering encourages deeper, healthier lawn roots, making for a stronger, greener lawn;
- Water your lawn for only ½ to 1 hour at a time; most lawns only need approximately one inch of water per week;
- Never water your lawn throughout the night – this is almost as bad as under watering your lawn;
- Many types of sprinklers can lose as much as 50% of water to evaporation – using a soaker hose directly waters the lawn with no loss to evaporation.

Garden Care:

- Add a mixture of peat moss and compost to your garden – this not only provides valuable nutrients making for healthier plants, but the soil will actually retain moisture longer;
- Add a layer of mulch, approximately two to four inches in depth, to your garden;
- Use plants which are native and/or are drought resistant;
- Use rain water collected from your downspout into a rain barrel for watering plants – its better for your plants than tap water;
- Use direct watering methods which soak the area around the plants, such as a soaker hose.

Miscellaneous Property Care:

- Use a broom to clean off your driveway instead of hosing it down;
- Instead of using a hose, use a bucket to wash vehicles;
- Putting a cover on your swimming pool reduces evaporation;
- Fix leaky faucets as soon as possible – one drip per second can amount to 60 litres of water per day;
- Fix leaky toilets as soon as possible. Leaky toilets are also big water wasters – wasting as much as 750 litres of water per month.