

Water Conservation FAQ's

When should I water? Signs of stressed grass include dull green color, footprints that remain visible, or curled leaf blades. Water only after the top 2" of the soil has dried out. Check moisture by feel with a soil probe or screwdriver. For most plants and grasses, no water is required during the winter months. Turn the irrigation system off!

What time of the day should I water? Evaporation loss can be 60% higher during the day, so water during the early morning or in the evening. Brown patch fungus is caused by over-watering and high fertility, not by watering at night.

How often and how much should I water? No more than 1" per week during hot and dry conditions. This amount will promote deep root systems and cause grasses and shrubs to be drought tolerant. Root growth peaks during spring so it is especially important to start your watering schedule during this time of year. Over-watering results in a shallow root system that is vulnerable to drought conditions. Over-watered turf can be retrained *by slowly adjusting it to longer periods between watering.*

What should I water? Only plants and grasses! Don't water the sidewalks and driveways. Use a broom or blower to sweep debris – this can save up to 100 gallons per 5 minutes of work!

When should I mow? Mow the grass only when it is dry, keep mowing blades sharp, and don't cut more than 1/3 of its length at one time.

How can I conserve soil moisture? Use lots of mulch; it will make shrubs and trees more tolerant to scorching Texas heat. For the lawn, do not bag the clippings. Mulched grass clippings hold in moisture, reduce evaporation, moderate temperature, and return nutrients to the lawn.