

Water Conservation Outside the Home

Did you know?

- A standard garden hose can discharge up to 6.5 gallons per minute.
- To apply an inch of water to 1,000 sq. ft. of lawn requires 620 gallons.
- Typically over 50% of the water use for a single family home in Utah is used for lawn and garden.

What can you Do?

Maintenance

- Fix leaks in faucets, pipes, hoses, and pool/ spa.



- Visually inspect your sprinklers system once a month and repair leaks.

- Install drip system for trees, shrubs, and flowers. They use less water than minsters.

Watering Methods

- Water only once or twice a week during the spring and fall.

- Create a low-maintenance lawn by fertilizing and watering less and mowing taller. Mow to at least 3" in height and do not cut off more than 1/3 of the total length. Over use of fertilizers and pesticides can potentially pollute water sources, so use these chemicals sparingly. Remember, the more you water and fertilize, the more your lawn grows, requiring more maintenance.

- Water at night in cycles. For example, three six minute sessions will decrease run-off and increase absorption.

- Only water when needed and only the plants that

need it. It is natural for plants to wilt a bit in the evening as long as they perk up in the morning.

- Mulch all areas of exposed soil, including potted plants. Do not water on windy days. Add organic materials to sandy or clay soils to increase its ability to hold water.

- Use a soil tester to check moisture levels at the root zone to determine when watering is necessary.

Consider updating your landscape

- Try planting drought tolerant and regionally adapted plants.
- Ask yourself, how much lawn do I actually use? Consider replacing unused lawn with drought tolerant plants or ground cover.
- Arrange plants in your garden according to water needs, if done correctly this will prevent over-watering or under-watering of plants.
- Install wood decking or bricks or stone with interlocking patters instead of impervious cement walkways.
- Consider Xeriscaping.



Cleaning Methods

- Sweep instead of using water
- Do not use water to clean gutters
- Use a bucket of non-toxic soap and water to clean the car and turn water off when not needed.
- Wash your car over your lawn if possible.
- Do not clean your car during the hottest part of the day when water evaporates quickly.
- Consider using a commercial facility.



Pool and Spa

- Even a small leak of one inch a day in a 15X30 ft pool can waste 102,000 gallons a year.



Top ways to keep the water in your pool or spa.

- Cover your pool or spa. Repair leaks.
- If pool is heated, reduce the temperature because warm water evaporates more quickly than cool.
- Manually clean your filter, this will do a better job and save water.
- Re-evaluate the frequency of your back-washing and adjust.

Resources

- www.conservewater.utah.gov
- www.epa.gov
- www.water.utah.gov

For information on Xeriscaping and drought tolerant plants visit:

- www.unps.org
- www.xeriscape.org
- www.slowtheflow.org
- www.hort.usu.edu

Other resources

There are many demonstration gardens that can be visited throughout Utah.

Visit your local library to find more sources of information about Xeriscaping and water conservation landscaping methods

For additional information on Storm Water Protection refer to the following brochures:

Erosion Control
 Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application
 Household and Vehicle Maintenance
 Impervious Surfaces
 Landscaping, Gardening, and Yard Maintenance
 Paint and Household Hazardous Waste
 Pet Waste Water Quality
 Utah and its Water, Why Conserve
 Water Conservation Inside the Home
 Water Conservation Outside the Home
 Xeriscaping



For more information about the Weber County Storm water quality management program and additional pamphlets, contact:

Weber County Storm Water Management
 Dr. George S. Burbidge
 444-24th St. Ogden, UT 84401
 Office (801)399-8677
 Fax (801)625-3699
www.co.weber.ut.us/stormwater

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Spill Response

Dial 911
 -or-
 State Of Utah
 Environmental Response
 (801) 536-4123

Utah Division of Water Quality
 (801) 538-6146

Local Pollution Control
 Agencies:
 Environmental Health Division of the
 Weber/Morgan Health Department
 (801) 591-7168



1-800-458-0145

Used Oil Recyclers
 (for DIYers in Weber County)

Weber County Transfer Station
 Auto Zone Stores
 Checker Auto Parts Stores
 NAPA Auto Parts Stores
 Pep Boys Stores
 Little Tire & Lube
 Jiffy Lube

The preceding list is not all encompassing nor does it constitute an endorsement by Weber County of any particular company

WATER CONSERVATION OUTSIDE THE HOME



A few ways you can help conserve water at home.

