



WATER LEAN. GROW GREEN.



Clackamas River Water Providers
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The Clackamas River Water Providers Water Conservation Program serves the following origins: Clackamas River Water, Oak Lodge Water District, City of Gladstone, South Fork Water Board, and Sunrise Water Authority. For more information about our water conservation program please contact:

For more water-efficient tips on how you can save water this summer, visit this website: www.conserveh2o.org

As your water provider we value the wise and efficient use of water, one of our most precious natural resources.

Summer watering can cause water bills to jump! In fact, about 32% of your total yearly water bill goes to summer outdoor watering. A large part of this may simply be the result of over-watering – something that can be controlled.

A HEALTHY GARDEN DOESN'T NECESSARILY NEED A LOT OF WATER.

By amending your soil, choosing the right plants for the right place, and watering properly, you could save hundreds or even thousands of gallons of water a year. Efficient outdoor watering saves you money and reduces your environmental impact.

ANYONE CAN WATER, LEAN AND GROW GREEN.

WATER, LEAN AND GROW GREEN WITH THESE SIMPLE TIPS



CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLANT FOR THE RIGHT PLACE

Every plant has specific soil, water and light needs. Matching plant needs to different areas in your yard will foster better growth.

- Choose plants adapted to your yard conditions.
- Learn your yard's light exposure, soil types and naturally available water.
- Group plants with similar needs together.
- Explore drought-resistant plants; many look beautiful and need little supplemental water once established.
- Choose native plants: they provide habitat for local wildlife and enhance our region's native character.

USE WATER WISELY

The greatest waste of water is watering too much, too often. Proper watering habits keep fertilizers and pesticides from running off into our streams and rivers.

- Prevent run-off by splitting your watering times into two applications with a break in between.
- Check your irrigation systems frequently for broken sprinkler heads, leaks and other problems.
- Water early in the morning or late at night to avoid excessive evaporation.
- Adjust your irrigation timer based on the weather. When automatic timers are set properly they can save water, money and time.
- Replace your lawn with low-water-use plants and/or hardscaped areas.
- The less water we use the more water we can leave in the rivers for fish.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR LAWN

A healthy lawn needs less water, pesticides and fertilizers. Typical Willamette Valley lawns need only 1 inch of water a week, unless it is extremely hot.

- Aerate lawns in the early summer to allow water and air to reach the roots.
- Water lawns 1 inch of water a week – add a bit more when the weather is unusually hot.
- Mow high to shade roots from the sun and help retain moisture.
- Mulch grass clippings to green up your lawn naturally.
- Fertilizer organically to protect kids, pets, and the environment.
- Skip the weed and feed products. Many of these can damage soil as well as pollute our waterways.

BUILD HEALTHY SOIL WITH COMPOST/SOIL AMENDMENTS

Healthy plants and lawns use less water and are more resistant to disease, pests, and the effects of drought. Healthy soil holds water like a sponge, slowly releasing moisture when plants need it most.

- Adding amendments to improve soil encourages deeper root systems and will reduce water and fertilizer needs.
- Avoid using pesticides and weed killer. They can harm worms and other soil organisms.
- Spot-treat weeds or dig them by hand.
- Take a soil sample to your local lab or county extension for a health analysis.
- Healthy soil reduces runoff – and less runoff means less pollution and waste in streams and rivers.