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COLORADO WATER FOURTEENERS

14

TIPS TO CONSERVE WATER OUTDOORS

Nearly 50% of residential water use occurs outside your home. The good news is, it's easy to save water outdoors.

Follow these easy tips and watch the water savings add up. It's good for the environment - and good for your wallet.



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1 PREVENT WATER RUNOFF

Only apply as much water as the soil can absorb. Use the "cycle and soak" method: divide total watering time into 3 short cycles, allowing 45-60 mins of soak time in between.

2 MAKE FREQUENT ADJUSTMENTS

Update your sprinkler system run times based on changing weather conditions and water needs. Ask your water provider for a recommended watering schedule.

3 WATER AT THE RIGHT TIME

Water during the cooler hours (6pm-10am) and avoid sprinkling on windy days.

4 DON'T WATER IN THE RAIN

If it has rained in the past few days, or will rain soon, let mother nature do the watering for you.

5 PLANT THE RIGHT PLANTS

Choose Plant Select® and Xeriscape plants that thrive in Rocky Mountain gardens.

6 DON'T WATER THE SIDEWALK

Adjust your sprinkler heads to prevent watering the pavement. Water runoff is wasteful and carries harmful chemicals into local lakes and streams.

7 AERATE

Aerate in the spring or fall to open up soil so it can absorb more moisture.

8 SWEEP, DON'T SPRAY

Don't waste water by spraying off a driveway or sidewalk; use a broom instead.

9 INSTALL SMARTER SPRINKLERS

Use water-efficient technology like drip irrigation, rotating sprinkler nozzles, and smart irrigation controllers.

10 CHECK FOR LEAKS

Check sprinkler heads and irrigation lines for leaks. Perpetually wet spots in your yard are a sign you may have a leak.

11 RAISE YOUR LAWN MOWER BLADE

Never cut grass shorter than 3 inches in height or cut more than 1/3 off the grass blade. Longer grass blades encourage deeper roots and better moisture retention.

12 AVOID OVER-FERTILIZING

Choose phosphorus-free fertilizer to keep lawns green and water blue.

13 MULCH

Add mulch to retain soil moisture. Mulching also helps control weeds.

14 XERISCAPE

Xeriscaping combines seven common-sense principles to save water while creating beautiful, climate-appropriate landscapes.