

Be water-wise! Reduce water waste & save money on your water bill!



The City has implemented water conservation measures in Section 410 of the City Code. This is to help protect our water resources and comply with DNR Water Appropriation Permit limits. Following these restrictions as well as implementing the tips below can help save water & save you money!

City Conservation Ordinances:

- **Odd-Even Watering Day Restrictions:** Residents and businesses with addresses ending in an odd number may water on odd numbered calendar days. Those with even-numbered addresses may water on even numbered calendar days. Odd-even watering will assist in maintaining appropriate water reserve levels and puts less “peak” demand on the water supply system.
- **Time of Day Restrictions:** Watering is not permitted between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. This method limits water usage during dry periods and assists in maintaining appropriate water supply levels. Ideal watering is during the allowed hours to avoid evaporation.
- **Summer Maximum Outdoor Usage:** The City of Waconia allows the maximum outdoor usage of 30,000 gallons/month during the summer months. Usage outside of this restriction will be charged a higher 4th tier rate.

More tips for keeping your yard green while saving some green!

- **1” of water per week is usually sufficient to keep your grass lush depending on soil type. On clay soil, 1” may be too much!**
- **Twice a week water is usually better than every other day, because it encourages deeper roots.**
- **Put measuring cups in various places around your lawn and run the sprinklers for 15 minutes. This will give you an idea of how much water the grass is getting and where.**
- **The greatest waste of water comes from applying too much, too often. Much of it runs off and is never absorbed. Instead of watering for one long continuous session, try splitting the watering time into shorter periods.**
- **There are many different types of irrigation systems. Get to know yours and check it’s settings. Is there a rain sensor or turf moisture sensor? Does it have pop-up or rotary style head?** Automatic timers might be convenient but can increase water waste if set improperly.
- **Inspect your system frequently to make sure everything is working property. A clogged head or torn line can wreak havoc on your water bill!**
- **Different plants have different watering needs, dividing the system by zones can help you customize the watering needs for the different areas of your landscaping.**
- **Using native plants that require less water and are adapted to our climate can reduce outdoor water use by 20 to 50 percent.**
- **Make sure your system is set up to account for your soil type, hills and slopes, landscaping, sun exposure, and unique yard shapes.**
- **Cut your grass longer! Set your lawn mower to cut 3” or higher. Longer grass requires less water & tolerates heat better. This also helps in weed prevention!**
- **To get an idea of how much water is used when you irrigate, look at the read on your water meter before and after the irrigation cycle, compare the reads to see the amount of gallons used. Do this before and after you make any adjustments and see the impact your changes made!**



Sources: www.dnr.state.mn.us
www.epa.gov