

## Irrigation Systems

- Monitor and maintain irrigation systems.
- Adjust timer seasonally – need for water changes with seasons.
- Water early in the morning, water percolates through the soil easier and less is lost to evaporation.
- Turn off irrigation during rain.
- Install a hose bibb timer to control release of water.
- Low-flow irrigation systems use less water than conventional methods.
- Avoid waste – a leaky faucet dripping at one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year.
- Avoid runoff which occurs when water is applied too fast.

## Water Conservation Resources

For water conservation resources, conduct the following searches:

- San Diego County Water Authority
- Water Conservation Tips - Public Utilities – City of San Diego
- Water Conservation Garden
- California Regional Water Control Board
- San Diego Coastkeeper
- California Department of Water Resources



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# Water Conservation





**Hotline: 858-822-6910**  
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## Use Smart Gardening Practices

- Water to root depth: adjust amount of water to depth of roots.
- Water at drip lines: the area defined by outer circumference of tree canopy.
- Add thick layer of mulch: it conserves moisture, improves soil quality and reduces weeds.
- Reduce fertilizer application: use only what a plant will need. Over fertilizing encourages overgrowth, requiring more water to sustain.



Watering smart saves money, beautifies landscape, reduces maintenance and protects our environment.



## Design to Save Water

- Plan your yard to fit your purpose.
- Group plants for similar water use and avoid overwatering or underwatering.
- Match irrigation to plant groups.
- Right size your lawn: plan your lawn for your needs.
- Consider replacing lawn with a thoughtful grouping of low water plants.

## Select Water Wise Plants

- Select plants that require less water and conserve water.
- Plants from a Mediterranean climate are adapted to survive dry summers and mild winters.
- California natives have adapted over time to local conditions. They need minimum water and little or no fertilizer.
- Native plants support native birds, butterflies, beneficial insects, and other species of native wildlife.
- Succulents often come from dry areas and can store water in their leaves, stems or roots.
- All succulents need good drainage and very little water.
- Warm season grasses need 25% less water; warm season grasses include Bermuda grass and Zoysia grass.