

Top 10 Water-Saving Tips for your Garden



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Check soil moisture using your finger or shovel and wait until the soil is dry 1 or 2 inches deep to water.



Place a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch on bare spots. This will reduce water evaporation, improve the soil and control weeds.



Use the landscape calculator at bewaterwise.com for advice on how much and how often to water.



Replace lawn areas with California friendly groundcovers, trees and shrubs whenever possible.

Cut summer watering to 2 or 3 days per week on grass areas and 1 to 2 days per week for plants.



Water only after 8 p.m. & before 6 a.m. to reduce water loss due to evaporation and wind.



Check with your water agency for help with weather-based irrigation clocks and free landscape surveys.



In winter, irrigate only if needed, to maintain some moisture in soil.



Fix leaking sprinklers, valves and pipes. A broken spray sprinkler wastes 10 gallons per minute or 100 gallons in a typical 10 minute watering cycle.



Attend classes on water-smart landscaping. Visit the Water Conservation Garden or call your local water agency.

Go to 20gallonchallenge.com or thegarden.org for more tips.