



Dear Neighbor:

California is facing serious water challenges. This makes saving water more important than ever. In the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor, I wanted to alert you to the following:

- Your sprinklers are watering the pavement.**
Adjusting your sprinkler heads to prevent overspray and runoff will save precious water.
- Your sprinklers were on during the rain.**
Shutting off your sprinkler system when rain is predicted saves water. It's typically not necessary to water for a week or more following a storm.
- You have a broken sprinkler, and/or your irrigation system is leaking.**
A broken sprinkler can waste 10 gallons per minute or 100 gallons in a 10-minute cycle. Making repairs right away is important to save water.
- Your sprinklers don't need to run every day.**
Most landscapes do fine with only 2 or 3 days a week of watering, even less in the winter. To determine when to water, step on your grass. If it springs back, it doesn't need water.
- Your sprinklers are on during the day.**
Watering only in the late evening or early morning hours reduces water loss from evaporation and wind.

The *official* California yard



Go water-wise because *Californians Don't Waste* 



See the reverse side for more outdoor conservation tips.

LANDSCAPE

- Reduce your watering days to once or twice per week. Water your lawn only when it needs it. Water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler.
SAVE: 25 gallons / each time you water
- Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
SAVE: 15-12 gallons / each time you water
- Choose a water-efficient irrigation system such as drip irrigation for your trees, shrubs, and flowers.
SAVE: 15 gallons / each time you water
- Water deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and keep the soil cool. Organic mulch also improves the soil and prevents weeds.
SAVE: 20-30 gallons / each time you water / 1,000 sq. ft.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.
SAVE: 30- 60 gallons / each time you water / 1,000 sq. ft.
- Information about evapotranspiration (ET) and weather based irrigation controllers is available at:
www.cuwcc.org. and www.cimis.water.ca.gov

CLEANUP

- Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios.
SAVE: 8-18 gallons / minute
- Wash cars/boats with a bucket, sponge, and hose with self-closing nozzle.
SAVE: 8-18 gallons / minute

This document is available in alternate formats by calling (805) 667-6500 or by contacting the California Relay Service.

Visit saveourH2O.org for more tips!