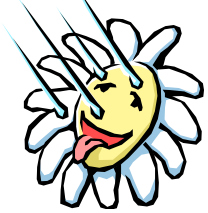
Water Savers



There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you.

- Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Install a rain shut-off device on your automatic sprinklers to eliminate unnecessary watering.
- Remember to check your sprinkler system valves periodically for leaks and keep the heads in good shape.
- Avoid planting turf in areas that are hard to water such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways.
- Only water your lawn when needed. You can tell this by simply walking across your lawn. If you leave footprints, it's time to water.
- Plant during the spring or fall when the watering requirements are lower.
- Divide your watering cycle into shorter periods to reduce runoff and allow for better absorption every time you water.
- Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. Longer grass shades root systems and holds soil moisture better than a closely clipped lawn.
- Use a layer of organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and save hundreds of gallons of water a year.
- Choose a water-efficient drip irrigation system for trees, shrubs and flowers. Watering at the roots is very effective, be careful not to over water.
- While fertilizers promote plant growth, they also increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.
- Water your plants deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
- When you clean your fish tank, use the water you've drained on your plants. The water is rich in nitrogen and phosphorus, providing you with a free and effective fertilizer.
- Remember to weed your lawn and garden regularly. Weeds compete with other plants for nutrients, light, and water.
- Check your water meter and bill to track your water usage.

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Storm Water Pollution Prevention

What are common contributors to storm water pollution?

When it rains, oil, antifreeze, detergents, pesticides and other pollutants get washed from driveways, backyards, parking lots, and streets into storm drains. The following items specify everyday pollutants occurring at our homes, businesses, and construction sites.

Residential

- Pet waste left on the ground gets carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our river. Please clean up after your pet.
- Vehicle fluids such as oil, gas, and antifreeze are the #1 surface water quality problems nationwide. Recycle used oil in a clean, sealed, plastic container. Call Dakota County Eco-Site 952-891-7020 for answers to questions regarding proper disposal of chemicals.
- SWEEP! Hosing off pavements washes pollutants into storm drains leading straight to the river. If water enters a public street or storm drain you are violating City Ordinance and could have a fee added to your water bill.
- Deliver old paint, pesticides, solvents and batteries to Dakota County Eco-Site, 3365 S. Hwy 149, Eagan.
- Street litter such as styrofoam, plastic, and paper can be prevented from blowing into inlets by keeping trash bins covered and by not littering.
- Yard waste such as grass clippings, tree trimmings, and leaves can be composted and used for fertilizer around the yard or take to NRG Compost Center. Stop at the Town Hall for a free permit for free drop off.