

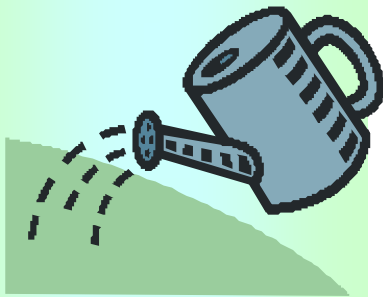


Save Water and Save Money!

When to Water

The best time to water is early in the morning when the dew point is the lowest

After 9 a.m., evaporation begins to rob the soil of moisture. Also, water droplets combined with the hot sun create a magnifying effect that can actually burn your grass and plants.



Running a sprinkler or watering at night can lead to root rot and creates excessive moisture that can cause certain lawn diseases.

Water only when grass or plants show signs of needing water. If you step on grass and it springs back up, you can wait to water. If it stays flat, it's time to water.

This summer, pay less and enjoy the benefits of efficient landscape watering. When you use less water, you pay less.

Here are some practical water conservation tips to help you maintain and enjoy your lawn and gardens without straining your wallet!

Lawn Care

Lawns need 1" of water a week, except over 100° temperatures which would require 1 ½" per week. You can measure the amount by placing tuna cans around the lawn when you water. Split the 1" into three applications over the week. Your lawn will absorb the moisture better. This also helps to prevent runoff which would wash fertilizers and pesticides into the storm system rather than keeping them in your yard.

When mowing the lawn, leave the grass at least 3" long to provide shade for the roots. Leave grass clippings on the lawn to retain moisture. Be sure to maintain lawn care equipment. Sharpen mower blades a least twice during the summer. Dull blades tear grass, forcing it to use 40 % to 60% more water!



Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. Applying fertilizer increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers that contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.

Don't water your lawn on windy days. You will lose water to evaporation *and* you will end up watering the sidewalks and driveways!

City of Veneta Water Rates

\$2.02 per 1,000 gallons for the 1st 5,000 gallons

\$2.40 per 1,000 gallons *over* 5,000 gallons and up to 15,000 gallons.

\$2.88 per 1,000 gallons over the 15,000 gallons

Water Saving Tips

-When washing a car, use a bucket and sponge. Wash car on grass if possible to recycle water.

-Wash pets on parts of the yard that need watering.

-Sweep sidewalks and driveways instead of hosing them down.



-Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.

-If you have automatic sprinklers be sure to turn them off if rainfall has been sufficient for your yard's needs.

-Don't use lawn toys that require a constant stream of water.

Garden Care



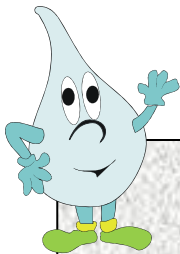
Use mulch around plants and trees to help retain moisture and cut down on watering. A layer of organic mulch around plants can reduce evaporation and save hundreds of gallons of water a year.

Use a shut off nozzle when watering your garden by hand. As you move around your garden you can turn the water off and on as you need it.

Use native or drought-resistant plants that will minimize long term water consumption.

Water According to the Weather

Pay attention to the weather. Decrease watering time during cool or humid conditions. One inch of water for your lawn on a weekly basis *includes rainfall*. A good downpour can eliminate the need to water for several weeks.



Did you know?

- Summer water use can increase a typical family's water consumption by 50 to 100% or more.
- Of water used at homes, almost half is used to maintain the landscape.
- Avoid leaving sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours.

