











# BE *water* SMART IN YOUR GARDEN THIS SUMMER

Here's how to irrigate efficiently and protect our district's water supplies.

## How often should you water?

	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
	SUMMER 			AUTUMN 			WINTER 			SPRING 		
LAWNS 	2–3 times per week			once a week			Nature does the work; no irrigation needed			once a week		
VEGETABLES/ FLOWERS 	every 2–3 days			every 5–7 days						every 5–7 days		
PLANTS/ TREES 	2–3 times per week			once a week						once a week		

## Best time of day to water

AM											PM												
12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
 <b>10.00pm–6.00am</b> reduces evaporation											 <b>Avoid 6.00am–10.00pm</b> water evaporates before reaching roots												

## How long should you water?

LAWNS 	20–30 minutes	VEGETABLE GARDENS/ FLOWER BEDS 	15–20 minutes	PLANTS/ TREES 	20–40 minutes depending on size
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## Adjusting for rainfall

1MM	2MM	3MM	4MM	5MM	6MM	7MM	8MM	9MM	10MM	11MM	12MM	13MM	14MM	15MM
After light rain (<10mm): skip the next watering or halve it										After heavy rain (>10mm): no watering needed for several days				
Check automatic irrigation systems; they often need manual adjustment														

## Tips to maximise water efficiency

<b>USE MULCH</b> to retain moisture	<b>ADJUST FOR WIND</b> water evaporates faster	<b>RAISE MOWING HEIGHT</b> longer grass dries out more slowly
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**WHY SAVE WATER?** Small changes at home add up. Reducing outdoor water use helps protect the district's water supplies and avoids the need for costly new infrastructure to treat, store, and deliver water during peak demand.

