Water Conservation

Tips for conserving water outside the home.

- **Adjust Sprinkler Heads & Fix Leaks**. Saves 12–15 gallons each time you water & a leak about as small as the tip of a ballpoint pen can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month!
- **Use Mulch**. Saves 20–30 gallons per 1000 sq. ft. each time you water.
- **Drought Resistant Trees & Plants**. Saves 30–60 gallons per 1000 sq. ft. each time you water.
- **Install Drip Irrigation & Add A Smart Controller.** Saves 15 gallons each time you water & saves 24+ gallons per day.
- **Build a berm.** Trees and shrubs need extra water during their first couple of years to help roots take hold. An efficient way to keep roots moist is to mound several inches of soil into a donut-shaped berm. Make the berm the width of the tree — including branches. Use a hose or bucket to fill the donut dam to the top. Water will absorb slowly instead of running off. Another option: Attach a drip irrigator bag to the tree. It looks like a plastic flotation tube and releases water slowly over several hours.
- **Use a rain sensor.** Install an irrigation timer with a rain sensor to avoid watering during a downpour. If you do not have a sensor, keep an eye on the forecast and shut off your water accordingly.
- **Do not water in the heat.** Watering at the peak of the day increasing evaporation in the summertime. Water early in the morning or late in the evening instead.
- **Clean your sidewalks and driveways with a brush or broom.** If it is necessary to use a hose, make sure it is equipped with a shut-off device.

Water conservation, using water efficiently and avoiding waste, is essential to ensure that we have adequate water today and into the future. Water is a finite resource and the supplies on Earth today are no more than what was here at the beginning of the planet. It is up to all of us to use the water we have wisely, and it is as simple as each of us making small changes. Make conserving water a daily part of your life. Moreover, remember when you save water, you save energy and money!

Check out these links for more information:

http://www.twdb.texas.gov/publications/brochures/conservation/doc/WaterConservingTips.pdf

http://takecareoftexas.org/conservation-tips/conserve-our-water

http://texaslivingwaters.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/SC_WaterConservByYard_report_031115_R.pdf