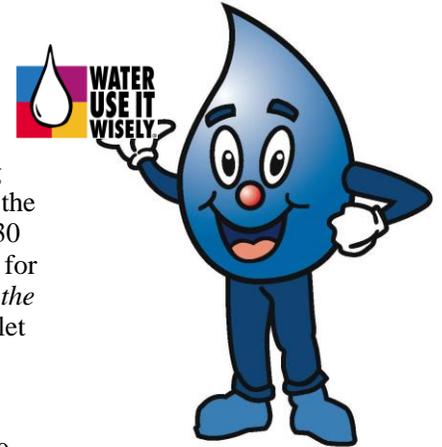




How to Keep Your Landscape From Soaking You!

Outdoor water usage can consume up to 70 percent of a household's water. That's why the easiest way to save water around your home is in your landscape. The Utilities Department offers a variety of guidelines that will save you water while keeping your landscape healthy and beautiful.

Our Water – Use It Wisely mascot, Wayne Drop, will guide you to a variety of resources that will help “drop” your water use:



- **Watering Guidelines:** Give your plants enough water to stay healthy, but not too much. Recent local university studies have found that landscapes are watered two to five times more than needed, so this is an area where water saving potential is greatest. Make sure you water thoroughly at each watering, but allow the soil to dry out in between irrigations (days in between waterings can reach up to 30 days for some desert plants). To help better determine how much water is needed for your plants, get a free copy of *Landscape Watering by the Numbers: A Guide for the Arizona Desert*. Call us for a copy at 480-644-3306 or request a copy of the booklet from our publications page at www.mesaaz.gov/conservation/publications.aspx. For an online version of the book, visit www.wateruseitwisely.com/arizona.
- **Monthly Watering Reminder:** You can reduce your landscape watering 30 to 50 percent by adjusting your irrigation each season. Follow the *landscape watering guidelines* from the booklet mentioned above to keep your watering efficient. For monthly updates on changing your watering schedule, sign up for our e-mail service at www.mesaaz.gov/Home/EmailLists.aspx or visit our online version at www.mesaaz.gov/conservation.
- **Control Your Controller:** If you don't have an electrical engineer in the house, or an eleven-year-old, programming your timer can be very confusing. Get an idea of the basics of programming at www.mesaaz.gov/conservation/pdf/program_timer.pdf or call us at 480-644-3306.
- **Free Booklets and Guides:** Watering is just part of the picture. Saving water in the landscape may involve your landscape style (grass vs. desert), your plant selection, or other landscape features (swimming pools, etc.). Find all of our *free* water conservation publications, such as a desert plant selection booklet, landscaping guides, and water saving tips for pools by visiting our www.mesaaz.gov/conservation/publications.aspx, or call for a copy of our publications list at 480-644-3306.
- **No More Mowing:** Remove your grass and you won't have to mow any more and you'll save lots of water. And as a bonus, we will give you \$500! Find out more about what it takes to convert your lawn by calling us at 480-644-3306 or visit us at www.mesaaz.gov/conservation/rebate.aspx.
- **Online Advice:** Are you looking for some online help? Stay in air-conditioned comfort while you do some landscape planning. Visit our Water – Use It Wisely campaign Web site where we offer great landscape information, like how to program your timer, what is Xeriscape, and more. Visit the site at www.wateruseitwisely.com/arizona.
- We also have our landscape plants book available online. What a great way to pick out beautiful and hardy replacement plants or new plants for your landscape that will help you save water everyday. Check it out at www.amwua.org/plants_index.html.
- **Free Water:** We don't get a lot of rain, but collect what sheds off your roof and you could collect over 7,000 gallons a year. Find out more by calling us at 480-644-3306 or visit <http://www.mesaaz.gov/conservation/pdf/HarvestingRainwater.pdf>.



For more information, visit www.mesaaz.gov/conservation or call Mesa Water Conservation at (480) 644-3306.