

OUTDOOR TIPS FOR RESIDENTS

TIP LEGEND: No cost - Easy to do Low cost - More effort required Higher cost - Most effort required

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION

Water Efficiency Tip

Estimated Savings

Water only in the late evening or early morning hours to reduce evaporation and interference from wind.

20–25 gallons/day

Don't overwater!

15–25 gallons/minute;

- Turn off irrigation systems before rainstorms and leave them off for as long as possible after. Water only after the top 1 inch of soil is dry.
- Program your irrigation controller to run based on local water agency restrictions. For information on those restrictions visit **WheninDrought.org**.
- Eliminate runoff or wasted water. Shorter or multiple run times can reduce runoff on slopes by allowing water to soak into the soil.

up to 250 gallons/cycle

Adjust sprinklers to prevent overspray and runoff.

15–25 gallons/day

Repair leaks and broken sprinkler nozzles.*

10 gallons/minute/leak

Add 2" to 3" of mulch around trees & plants to reduce evaporation.

20–30 gals/day/1,000 sq. ft.

Install rain barrels.*

varies

Install a graywater system to help irrigate your landscape.

16 gallons/load

Install water-efficient drip irrigation system for trees, shrubs, and flowers to get water to the plant's roots more efficiently.

20–25 gallons/day

Upgrade to a "smart irrigation controller" that automatically adjusts watering times based on weather conditions.*

40 gallons/day

Replace your lawn and upgrade to WaterSmart landscape.*

up to 44 gallons/sq. ft. annually depending on climate

OTHER OUTDOOR IDEAS

Water Efficiency Tip

Estimated Savings

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.

8–18 gallons/minute

Collect warm-up shower water in a bucket and use to water plants.

2.5 gallons/minute

When you give pets fresh water, use old water on your landscape.

2.5 gallons/minute

Adjust your pressure reducer (if you have one) to keep pressure between 40 and 60 p.s.i.

Varies

While washing your car, use a self-closing nozzle for your hose.

8–18 gallons/minute

Use a car wash that recycles water.

15-32 gallons/wash

Fix a leaky meter.

up to 1000s of gallons

Repair any leaks around pool and spa pumps.

20 gallons/day/leak

Repair leaking hose bibs.

15–20 gal./day/leak

Install covers on pool and spas to reduce evaporation.

30 gallons per day

Install pressure reducer if your pressure is greater than 80 p.s.i.

Varies

*Rebates may be available. Visit **WaterSmartSD.org** for information.

WHEN IN DROUGHT

Save every day, every way.



Water efficiency tips, rebates, tools and inspirational case studies for business and residents available at WaterSmartSD.org.

San Diego County Water Authority

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