



**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](http://WaterSmartSD.org).

San Diego County Water Authority

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