

# *Water Wisdom*

## *Saving Water Outdoors*

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Over 60% of Conroe's water consumption is outdoor usage, primarily lawn irrigation. This includes commercial uses such as car washes and other industries, the largest outdoor usage overall is lawn irrigation. Here are some tips for conserving water outdoors:

1. Don't over water your lawn. One inch of water per week in the summer will keep most common grasses healthy. In fact, if you overwater, the turf will never develop the kind of deep root system needed to keep it healthy long-term.
2. Automatic sprinklers can sometimes waste a great deal of water if not used and maintained properly. Make sure the system is set to water only when needed. Check sprinkler heads regularly to make sure they are working properly. Adjust sprinkler heads to avoid unnecessary overspray on sidewalks or driveways.
3. Whenever possible, water during the early morning hours, before the sun is high in the sky. This will allow time for the water to soak into your lawn before the midday sun evaporates it. Also, avoid watering on windy days.
4. Don't "scalp" your lawn. By keeping your lawn 3 inches or taller during the summer, you will help the lawn hold in more moisture. Also, try not to cut more than 1/3 of the lawn's length at one time.
5. Use 4 to 6 inches of mulch around your plants and shrubs to retain moisture.

***We must be accountable and responsible in conserving this valuable resource.***

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