Being Water Wise is easy. Here’s how to water efficiently:

**Smart watering tips**

- **Single soak** A thorough watering once per week is the best way to maintain a healthy lawn. Rain is often enough!
- **Less is more** Over watering your lawn or garden is harmful, not helpful! Excess moisture can rot grass roots and creates the perfect environment for disease.
- **Rise and shine** Watering early in the morning is best for your grass and gardens. Midday wind and hot sun will evaporate the water meant for your plants.
- **How much is too much?** Try leaving a small container (like a tuna can) on your lawn! When the container is full, your lawn has enough water for the week. Only one inch per week encourages deep, healthy roots.
- **Don’t be down if it’s brown** Brown grass isn’t dead, only dormant. It’s OK to let your lawn go dormant. Grass can live four to six weeks without water. It will bounce back!

**Know before you mow**

- **Grow it** Deep roots mean healthy turf, so allow your lawn to grow at least 11 cm (4.5 inches) before mowing it.
- **Trim it** Don’t cut your lawn by more that 1/3 of its blade length.
- **Leaf it** Leave grass clippings or leaves on your lawn as cost-effective fertilizer. The nutrients are good for both lawns and gardens!

**Choose a Water Wise garden**

- **Plan ahead** Choose plants that don’t need much water and are suited to our local climate.
- **Cover up** A layer of organic mulch helps keep moisture in the soil and provides nutrients too.
- **Rain is free** Use rain barrels to harvest rain water that’s perfect for gardens and grass.

**Tips for irrigation systems**

- Use a timer to not water too long, and only within by-law hours.
- Check regularly for leaks.
- Make sure water isn’t being wasted on sidewalks or other hard surfaces.
- Consider an efficient drip irrigation system that delivers water to the roots.
- Manual irrigation is more efficient and less expensive than an automatic system.

Follow the Region’s Water Conservation By-Law to help conserve our community’s water. Water lawns only once per week and gardens every other day. Know your day and thanks for watering wisely!

For more information:
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