For additional tips on how to irrigate more efficiently, contact your water supplier, local Utah State University Extension Horticulture Specialist, or one of the following organizations:

Center for Water Efficient Landscapes
Central Utah Water Conservancy District
Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
Salt Lake City Water Department
US Bureau of Reclamation, 801-379-1000
www.uc.usbr.gov/progact/waterconsv/index.html
Utah Div. of Water Resources, 801-538-7260
http://conservewater.utah.gov
Utah Irrigation Association
Utah Nurseries and Landscape Association
Utah State University Extension
Utah Turf Growers Association
Washington County Water Conservancy District wcwcd.state.ut.us
Weber Basin Water Conservancy District
801-771-1677 www.weberbasin.com

A Century of Water for the West
1902-2002

The Garden

NATURE WALK AT TONAQUINT PARK

1851 Dixie Drive
St. George, Ut 84770

For More Information Call
Julie Breckenridge at the
WCWCD (435) 673-3617

RENÉ FLEMING
CONSERVATION COORDINATOR
175 E, 200 N., ST. GEORGE, UTAH
(435) 634-5839 ext. 111• www.sgcity.org

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION:

IT'S UP TO US

The City of St. George storm waters flow directly to the Virgin River with NO treatment. Degradation of storm water is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near streams or use them for recreation. The following are some common sources of contaminants in storm runoff:

- Spilled oil, fuel and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment
- Construction silt and debris
- Landscape runoff containing pesticides or weed killers
- Materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

The City of St. George has developed a Storm Water Management Program to educate local residents and businesses and to improve the quality of storm water runoff. We hope you will join us, by using the recommended methods described in this pamphlet.

What Can You Do?

GENERAL PRACTICES

- Use biodegradable pesticides/herbicides.
- Never use the gutter or storm drain system for disposal of household or garden waste.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers or other chemicals indoors or in a storage shed.
- Remove all pet waste from yard and curb and dispose of it in trash.
- Wash household tools over grassy areas away from curbs and gutters.
- Clean leaves, sediment and trash out of gutter and dispose of it in garden or trash.

LANDSCAPING/GARDEN MAINTENANCE

- Control erosion on your property by planting groundcover and stabilizing erosion prone areas.
- Use up pesticides. Rinse containers and use rinse water as product. Dispose of rinsed containers in the trash.
- Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste and tree trimmings. Compost them yourself or take them to the City Reuse Center for composting.
- Sweep and collect dirt from driveways or walks and dispose of it in the garden.
- Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to instructions.

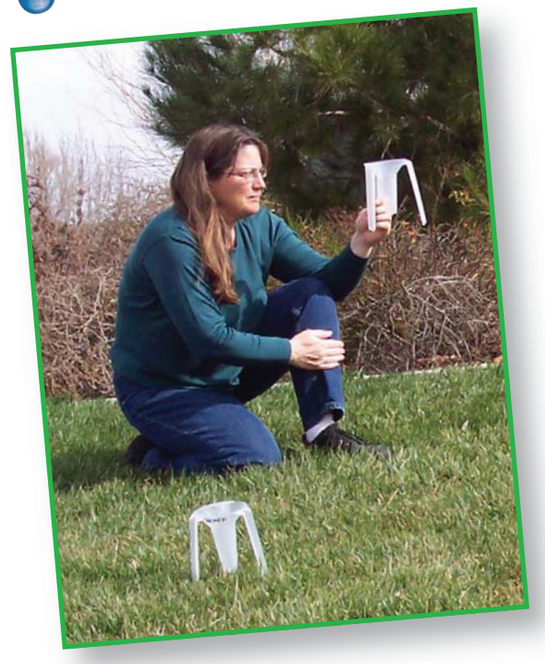
POOL/SPA MAINTENANCE

- Never discharge pool or spa water to a street or storm drain.
- When emptying a pool or spa, let chlorine dissipate for a few days, and then recycle/reuse it by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area.
- Do not use copper-based algaecides unless absolutely necessary. Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives. Copper is an especially strong herbicide and doesn't degrade to less toxic forms quickly.

For more information about the City of St. George Storm Water Quality Management program please contact the Public Works Department at 435-674-4287 or visit the City's website **www.sgcity.org**.

Residential Lawn Watering Guide

DO YOU KNOW YOU COULD USE LESS WATER AND HAVE A HEALTHIER LAWN?



WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW...

City of St. George — Reduce Your Use!

175 E. 200 N., ST. GEORGE, UTAH 84770
(435) 674-4213 • www.sgcity.org

Most of us use drinking water to grow our lawns, flowers and other plants. On average, we use about two thirds of our water outdoors, most of which goes on lawns. As much as one half of the water is wasted through incorrect watering.

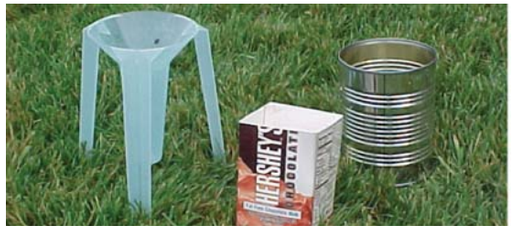
1. **Do you know how much water you apply each time you irrigate your lawn?**
2. **Are you applying the water to your lawn evenly?**
3. **Do you know when your lawn needs water?**

If you cannot answer these questions, the following three simple steps will help you find the answers and put you on the path to irrigate your lawn correctly.

STEP 1. Check Distribution Uniformity (Pattern) of Your Sprinklers.

Remember, not all sprinklers apply the same amount of water. This is true of automatic, manual, or hose systems.

To check the distribution pattern, you will need at least four containers. Straight sided containers like soup cans or milk cartons are fine but tuna cans are too shallow and water splashes out. You may also use special water measuring cups available from local Utah State University Extension Offices or WCWCD.



Suitable test containers could include special water measuring cups, open topped milk cartons, or soup cans.

A) Place the four or more containers in a grid pattern over the lawn area to be checked.

B) Run your sprinklers for a period of time (at least 10 minutes) over the lawn. If you have overlapping sprinklers that run at different times, run both sets of sprinklers. Check each container and see if the amount of water in each is about the same. Make a note of those containers (areas) that have more or less water than average.

Try the following suggestions to apply water more evenly:

- Set the sprinklers to run for longer or shorter periods of time if they are on different valves.
- Check and repair clogged, damaged, or broken sprinkler heads. Also look for sprinklers that may be set into the ground too deeply or tilted. Sprinklers should be vertical and should not be obstructed by surrounding grass, plants, or other objects.
- Sprinklers running on the same line or valve should be the same model and have the right nozzle to cover the desired area.

C) After making adjustments, empty the containers and try the test again. Continue to make adjustments and run the test until the system is applying water as evenly as possible.

STEP 2. Determine how long you should run your sprinklers to apply the right amount of water.

You live in an area where there are 25 or more days above 100° F each year, so 5/8 inch irrigation applications are suggested.

A) In your four containers, measure and mark a 5/8 inch depth. Note that on the special water measuring cups, the 5/8 mark is at the bottom of the "MADE IN USA" label.

B) Turn on your sprinklers and time how long it takes for water to reach the marks in each container. With overlapping sets of sprinklers, split the run time equally between both sets of sprinklers. Figure the average run time for all containers.

C) If you see water running off your lawn, three or more soak cycles are recommended. Irrigate for three or more cycles allowing 1 hour in between each cycle. This will prevent water from running off the lawn.

Example: If your sprinklers take 21 minutes to apply 5/8 inch of water, you would use three, seven minute cycles. Run your sprinklers for seven minutes each cycle and wait one hour in between each cycle.

STEP 3. Set Your Watering Schedule

Now that you know **how long** to water each time you irrigate, you need to know **how often** to irrigate. The following schedule shows how often to irrigate during the growing season.

IRRIGATION SCHEDULE - Southern Utah	
Month	Interval
Startup until March 31	Once every 8 days
April	Once every 5 days
May	Once every 4 days
June	Once every 3 days
July	Once every 3 days
August	Once every 3 days
September	Once every 5 days
October	Once every 7 days
Nov. 1 to Shutdown	Once every 10 days

This schedule is based upon average or normal weather conditions. Unusually warm conditions may require an occasional irrigation a day earlier than scheduled. Rain storms or cool periods may allow postponing or skipping an irrigation.

By following the above suggestions, you will apply the maximum amount of water required by the lawn. You will also use about half of the water the average Utah homeowner uses.

This schedule could save you as much as 1/4 of your yearly water usage.
Even so, you may still be using more than is necessary. To use less water, you will need to make your sprinkler system more efficient or reduce the total number of irrigations you apply during the growing season.
Each unnecessary Irrigation that can be eliminated will save enough water for about 130 showers, 65 baths, 65 loads of laundry, or 390 toilet flushes.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!