

# 10 WATER-SAVING TIPS

## IRRIGATION

- 1** Adjust your sprinklers so that they're watering your lawn and garden, and not the street or sidewalk.
- 2** Water early in the morning (before 10 am) or later in the evening (after 6 pm) when temperatures are cooler and evaporation is minimized.
- 3** Water established lawns about 1 inch per week (a bit more during hot, dry weather). Find out how much to water this week with the Weekly Watering Number at [www.regionalh2o.org/wwn](http://www.regionalh2o.org/wwn).
- 4** Water in several short sessions each day that you water rather than one long session to allow for better absorption and to prevent run-off.
- 5** Use watering gauges to time how long it takes your sprinkler system to water an inch. You can also get info on how to do this at <https://bit.ly/Measure-Sprinkler-Water-Use>.
- 6** Set it, but don't forget it! Whether you have a manual or automatic system, be sure to adjust the amount you water each week throughout the irrigation season.
- 7** Put plants with similar watering needs in the same zone. Creating "watering zones" in your garden will allow you to give each plant the appropriate amount of water it requires.
- 8** Install a rain sensor. A rain sensor will allow your irrigation system to automatically shut-off if rainfall exceeds a certain amount. Afterward, the system will automatically resume its normal schedule.
- 9** Regularly check your irrigation system for leaks, broken lines, or blocked heads. Even small leaks can waste hundreds to thousands of gallons of water a month.
- 10** Add a shut-off nozzle to your garden hose and save about 5-7 gallons each minute your hose is on.

# REGULARLY CHECK YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM FOR

## LEAKS

Even small leaks can waste hundreds to thousands of gallons of water a month.

Examples of water lost to leaks from a dripping faucet



**60**  
DROPS/MINUTE =  
**192**  
GALLONS/MONTH



**90**  
DROPS/MINUTE =  
**288**  
GALLONS/MONTH



**120**  
DROPS/MINUTE =  
**384**  
GALLONS/MONTH

Examples of water lost to leaks from an irrigation system

HOLE SIZE		GALLONS PER MONTH WASTED
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1/4"		400,000
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3/16"		225,000
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1/8"		100,000
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1/16"		25,000
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1/32"		6,300
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The Regional Water Providers Consortium is a collaborative and coordinating organization that works to improve the planning and management of municipal water supplies in the greater Portland, Oregon metropolitan region.



[www.regionalh2o.org](http://www.regionalh2o.org)