



CHARLOTTETOWN WATER & SEWER UTILITY

WATER USE TIPS FOR LAWNS AND GARDENS

WATER IS PRECIOUS – USE IT BUT DON'T WASTE IT!

Green lawns without waste.

In the summer, we use 50% more water than during the rest of the year, most of which goes to our lawns and gardens. By using water wisely in the summer, you will waste less water while still maintaining a healthy green lawn and garden.

Give your sprinkler a rest!

Lawns don't need to be watered every day. Watering every three to five days is sufficient, less often if it rains. When you do water, give it a thorough soaking. This will produce a deep root system and stronger grass. Daily watering results in shallow roots and weaker grass.

Choose a sprinkler which delivers large flat droplets and which suits the size and shape of your lawn.

If your grass is green... it doesn't need watering.

Lawns only need a total of two to three centimeters of water a week. **More is not better.**

To determine how long it takes for your lawn to receive two to three centimeters, place a can under your sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill the can to the required amount.

Or by using an automatic timer on your sprinkler, you can program it to water your lawn only as much as it needs and at the right time of the day.

Suntanning and lawn watering don't mix!

The best time to water your lawn is during the coolest parts of the day. Watering in the early morning when it is cool or in the early evening after the sun has gone down will reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation.

Don't water grass on sunny days when water droplets magnify the sun's rays, causing the grass to burn. Don't water on windy days.

Short grass belongs on the golf course.

Cut your grass higher than usual (over six centimeters) to provide shade for roots. Taller grass holds water better and actually looks richer.

Trade in your grass.

Ask your local gardener about "xeriscaping" or "nature-scaping" replacing your grass with native ground covers and flowers that require little upkeep and are drought-resistant.

Don't let your pool get thirsty

Use a swimming pool cover to prevent evaporation, keep debris out and keep heat in.

Give your car a sponge bath, not a shower.

If you wash your car with a running hose, you can use as much as 400 litres of water each wash. Instead, use a bucket and sponge to wash your car, then rinse it quickly using a trigger nozzle on your hose. This way, you can save up to 300 litres of water each wash.

Grass doesn't grow on driveways... so why water them?

Never use your hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom instead.

REMEMBER, THE WISE USE OF WATER WILL SAVE YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY MONEY AS WELL AS HELP IMPROVE OUR ENVIRONMENT.

Please contact your local **Garden Centre (Yellow Pages)** or the Charlottetown Water and Sewer Utility (629-4014) if you have any questions.

