

How does your garden grow?

Pick drought-tolerant plants **native** to your region and **save water.**

Be Picky About Plants and Save Water!

When landscaping your yard, choose plants local to your region to reduce outdoor water waste. Native and drought-tolerant varieties require little water beyond normal rainfall. Know your plants' watering and sunlight needs so you can pick the best place in your yard to plant. Grouping plants with similar watering needs together helps save water and promote a healthy garden.



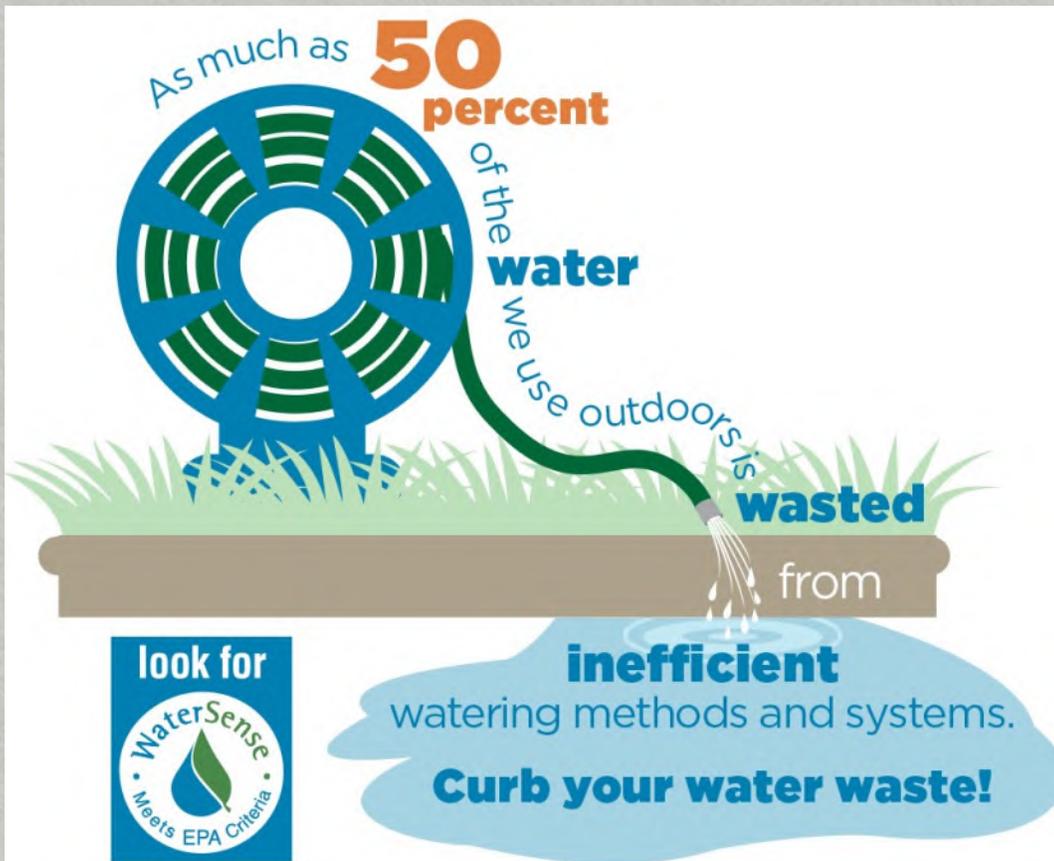
Put the right plant in the right place to save in your outdoor space.

www.epa.gov/watersense/landscaping-tips



#WaterSmartLandscaping

As much as **50 percent** of the water we use outdoors is **wasted** from



Look for  **inefficient** watering methods and systems. **Curb your water waste!**

SIMPLE THINGS WE ALL CAN DO



Your lawn only needs one inch of water per week, which includes the rain. Use a rain gauge or upcycle shallow containers (like tuna fish cans) and mark an inch on its side.



Step on it:

Step on the lawn; if the grass springs back, it doesn't need water.

Longer grass promotes a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced soil moisture evaporation and fewer weeds.

Leave it long:



Take a sprinkler break:

Grass isn't really meant to be bright green in the summer.



Simple Things Irrigation System Owners Can Do

Homes with automatic irrigation systems can use about **50%** more water outdoors.

Timing is everything: Plan to water early in the morning to beat daytime evaporation. Watering early in the morning is best reducing water borne diseases and problems for your plants.



Tune up your system:

Inspect irrigation systems, and fix leaks and broken or clogged sprinkler heads.

Make sure you're watering the lawn, not the sidewalk or driveway!

Just 1 broken sprinkler head could waste up to **25,000** gallons of water and **\$90+** over a 6-month irrigation season—the cost of about 300 daffodil bulbs.



Unsure on how to maintain your irrigation system? Go with a pro:

Contractors certified through a WaterSense labeled program can audit, install, or maintain home irrigation systems so no water is wasted. To find a pro, go to <https://lookforwatersense.epa.gov/pros/>.

Look for the Label:

If your system uses a clock timer, consider upgrading to a WaterSense labeled controller that acts like a thermostat for your lawn, using local weather data to determine when and how much to water. They can reduce irrigation water use by 15%, saving nearly **8,800 gallons** of water per year! To learn more go to <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/irrigation-controllers>.

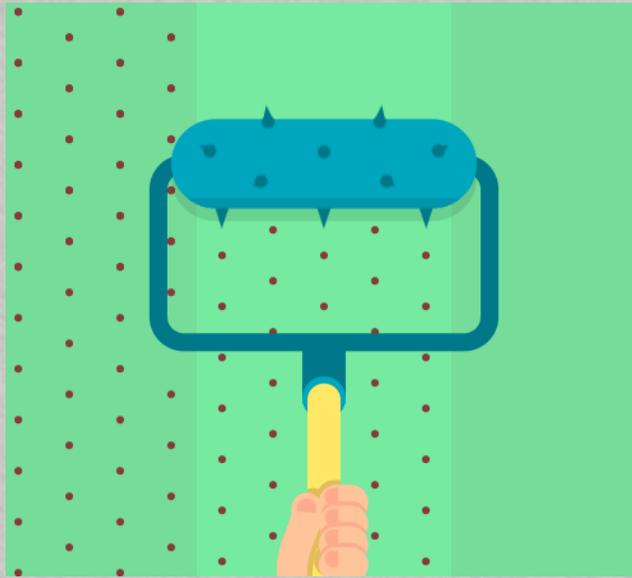


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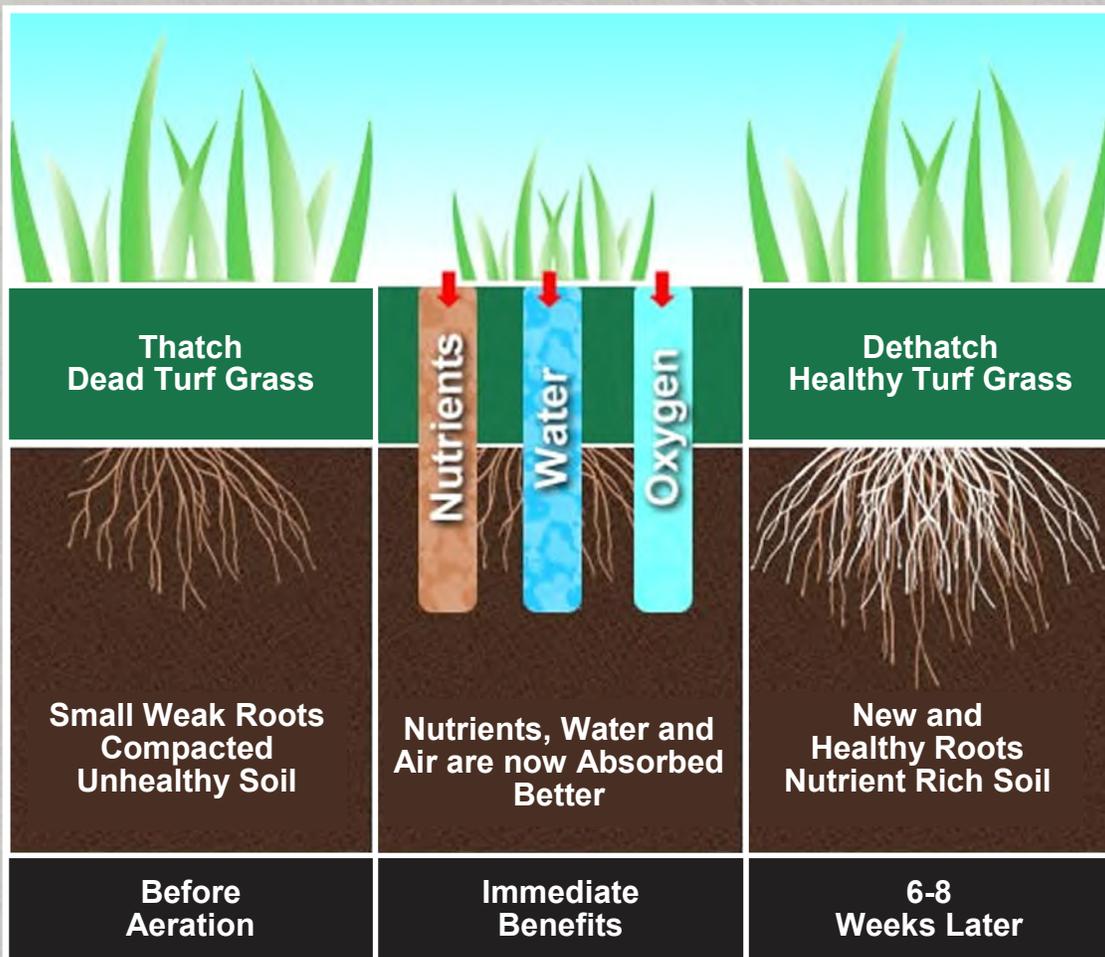


WaterSense, a partnership program by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply. For more tips on reducing outdoor water use, visit www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor.

Aerate lawns allowing water to be absorbed better, as well as nutrients and oxygen, creating thicker, healthier grass.



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