

Smart Water Use in Chino Valley

Tip #1: Household Conservation

Using simple conservation practices at home can save water, money and time.

Outdoor Water Savings

1. Check with your Homeowner's Association regarding any landscaping restrictions.
2. During warmer months, water only during the cooler hours between 8 pm and 8 am.
3. Water only as fast as the soil can absorb.
4. Check sprinkler heads weekly for clogs or damage; repair or replace immediately.
5. Don't water hardscape surfaces; adjust sprinklers to prevent spray onto walkways, driveways, roads or buildings.
6. Set a timer when hand-watering.
7. Set irrigation timers monthly considering seasonal changes.
8. Group plants with similar water needs on the same irrigation zone.
9. Limit total lawn turf area.
10. Avoid planting turf on steep inclines or isolated strips.
11. Water lawn only when needed. Walk across the grass; if footprints appear, it's time to water.
12. When adding or replacing plants, choose native, low water use varieties.
13. Plant seasonal flowers in pots, not beds.
14. Start a compost pile. Add a layer of organic mulch in planting beds.
15. Create healthier landscapes by watering plants deeply, but less frequently.

www.chinoaz.net/water_res

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16. Test soil moisture using a screwdriver; If it goes in easily to a depth of 6", don't water.
17. Use a soil moisture probe to determine watering depth.
18. Harvest rainwater. If it rains, skip a watering cycle.
19. Don't over-water plants. This is the most common waste of water.
20. Prevent runoff by using porous materials for walkways and patios.
21. Aerate lawn by punching holes 6" apart to allow water to reach roots.
22. Use commercial car washes that recycle water.
23. Change directions each time the lawn is mowed. Adjust the mower to a higher setting; longer grass holds moisture.
24. Don't wash walks and driveways. Sweep or air blow.

Indoor Water Savings

Detecting a Leak

1. Locate the water meter.
2. Turn off all indoor and outdoor water-using devices.
3. Record the water meter reading.
4. Wait 30 minutes; read the meter again. If the reading has changed, you have a leak!

Repairing a Leak

1. Check the toilets first. Put 10-15 drops of food coloring in the tank and wait 10 minutes. If the color reaches the bowl, you have a leak. The flapper or tank ball is most likely the cause.
2. Replace worn out washers in faucets and showerheads.
3. Make sure all faucets are turned off when not in use.
4. Check all household appliances, including the hot water heater and evaporative cooler for leaks at connection points.
5. Make certain the level in the evaporative coolers is below the top of the overflow pipe.



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Water Resource Department
1982 N. Voss Dr.
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