

# Saving Water Advice

In the Garden....



Outdoor water use accounts for **around 7%** of the total water use in the average property, but in summer **this can rise to over 50%** as gardens are watered more frequently.

## Lawn



- \* Leave your grass long (not less than 3cm) & don't cut it by more than one-third of its length at any one time.
- \* Its ok to let your lawn go brown in the summer—brown lawns are eco-friendly and will recover after rainfall.
- \* Sprinklers can use as much as 1,000 litres of water per hour—more than a family of four may use in a whole day! If you must use a sprinkler, water early in the morning or late in the evening when evaporation rates are lowest.

## Watering

- \* A water butt can store some of the tens of thousands of litres of rainwater collected on your roof each year and can be used to water your garden.
- \* Use a trigger nozzle on your hosepipe to reduce the water used and direct the water to flow to the roots of your plants. Alternatively, use a watering can.



## Planting



- \* Use mulch and bark in your garden to reduce evaporation by up to 75%
- \* Think about mixing some drought resistant bedding and perennial plants to your garden to add diversity.
- \* Water roots, not leaves. Make sure water is being directed on the ground close to the root zone, not higher up or further away where it could blow off or evaporate.

## General

- \* Pressure washers use a lot of water, use them sparingly. If you must wash your patio furniture or bicycle, why not do it on the lawn so that water gets recycled.
- \* Use a bucket and sponge to wash your car—just 30 minutes with a hosepipe could use hundreds of litres. Also, using a bucket will give your car a much more precise wash. If you must use a hosepipe, attach a trigger nozzle.



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