

Make water work smarter in your yard.

You've got questions. We've got answers and friendly advice.

1. How can I make my water more productive?

Put it on the night shift. Water between dusk and dawn.

Putting water to work during the coolest part of the day prevents evaporation. A good rule of thumb is between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Check with your water utility for specific watering restrictions in your area.

Okay, but how am I supposed to water my lawn while I'm asleep?

Get a timer! Did you know that only 12% of stand-alone sprinklers in Canada are used with a timer? Let's change that stat together. Most hardware stores supply timers for sprinklers. Sleep like a baby while your water works the night shift.

2. How do I make water more efficient?

Don't spray and pray.

Don't let water waste your time, effort and money! It should sprinkle your lawn or garden, not pavement.

3. What landscaping plants work well in the Okanagan?

Pair water with plants suitable for our dry climate.

Okanagan water works best with plants suitable for our dry climate: drought-tolerant turf, native and low-water variety plants.

Check out our [Make Water Work Plant Collection](#), including 105 perennials, grasses, trees, and shrubs.



4. Is my water working effectively?

Leave grass 2-3 inches tall (5-8cm).

Never mow low. Let it grow! Water stays longer when grass is longer. Leaving your grass longer slows evaporation from the soil, making it work more effectively!

Leave grass clippings as mulch.

Leaving grass clippings on your lawn helps feed the lawn and keep moisture, requiring less water and reducing evaporation.

Aerate your lawn and top dress with compost.

Aerating the lawn in early spring or fall improves water penetration. Water also works best with organic products like compost, which minimize over-fertilizing and help prevent storm water pollution.

5. How much water is enough?

One inch a week will do.

Most lawns need just 2.5cm (one inch) of water per week—about the depth of a tuna can.

Watering deeply and less often promotes deep, healthy root growth. If you're watering deeply but not seeing results, the problem may be inadequate topsoil. Try top dressing with half an inch of compost, then over-seeding for a thick and vigorous lawn.

Tune up your irrigation.

Water works better when paired with a properly running irrigation system. Fix leaks and broken or clogged sprinkler heads. Reduce run times when weather is cooler. Don't know how? Go with a certified pro!

Install water-saving irrigation products.

Save money on your water bill by using high efficiency irrigation, like drip or microjet, for shrubs and gardens.

Collect and use rainwater. It's free!

Rain barrels collect fresh, naturally soft and chemical-free water that is great for container plants, flower beds, and food gardens.

