

Newsletter



Summer 2025

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Smart Sprinkling: How to Conserve Water and Keep Your Lawn Green

As summer heats up, our sprinkler systems become essential tools for maintaining healthy lawns and gardens. But without proper management, they can also become major sources of water waste. Fortunately, conserving water while using your sprinkler system is easier than you might think. Here are some quick, effective tips to help you save water—and money—without sacrificing curb appeal.

1. Water Early or Late

Water during the cooler parts of the day—early morning or late evening—to reduce evaporation. Avoid watering during midday when the sun is strongest. The district has a water conservation policy that states that no irrigation watering is allowed between 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

2. Adjust for the Season

Update your sprinkler schedule monthly based on the weather and season. Lawns need less water in spring and fall than in the peak of summer. Your lawn only needs 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week.

3. Fix Leaks and Overspray

Check for leaking sprinkler heads, broken lines, or areas where water sprays onto sidewalks and driveways. Fixing these small issues can save thousands of gallons over a season.

4. Install Smart Controllers

Smart sprinkler controllers adjust watering based on weather forecasts, soil moisture, and plant needs. These systems can reduce water use by up to 30%.

5. Use the “Cycle and Soak” Method

Instead of watering all at once, run sprinklers in shorter cycles with breaks in between. This allows water to soak into the soil rather than running off.

6. Choose Water-Efficient Heads

Switch to rotary nozzles or low-flow sprinkler heads that deliver water more slowly and evenly, increasing absorption and reducing waste.

By making just a few changes, your sprinkler system can work more efficiently saving water, lowering your utility bills, and keeping your landscape thriving. Every drop counts!

Chris Sulewski
Field Operations Supervisor

Friendly Reminders!

The upcoming Board Meetings will be held on July 17th and August 21st at 5 pm. Any changes will be announced on our [Facebook](#) and [website](#).

Summer Pool Cookies



You will need:

- 1 cup butter, softened
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon almond extract
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 2- $\frac{1}{4}$ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking soda
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon ground nutmeg

Frosting:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter, softened
- 3 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 to 4 tablespoons hot water
- Blue food coloring
- Optional decorations: Bear-shaped crackers, fish-shaped graham cracker, Airheads candies, gummy sour rings, white sugar pearls and palm tree party picks

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 350°. Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy, 5-7 minutes; beat in extracts and egg, 1 at a time. In another bowl, whisk together flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, salt and nutmeg; gradually beat into creamed mixture
- Drop dough by rounded tablespoonfuls 3 inches apart onto parchment-lined baking sheets; flatten slightly with bottom of a glass dipped in sugar. Bake until edges begin to brown, 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan to wire racks; cool completely
- For frosting, beat butter, confectioners' sugar, extract and enough water to reach desired consistency; tint blue with food coloring. Spread over cookies. Decorate as desired.

Summer Water Conservation



Summer is definitely here and the temps are on the rise and water usage is up as well. Around 70% of water distributed in Paint Brush Hills in the summers is due to irrigation.

Most folks might be tempted to use much more water irrigating their landscapes than necessary. Each month, 4-5 million gallons of water are used, but this amount TRIPLES during irrigation season. Here are some water-wise tips you may want to consider before getting a shock to your water bill.

Lawn & Garden Care

- **Water only when necessary.** Let your lawn go slightly dormant (light browning is okay) during hot months—it's natural and not harmful if weeds are managed.
- **Water deeply, not frequently.** Aim to give your lawn just enough to stay healthy, avoiding puddles and runoff. Use the "Cycle and Soak" method, which means break the total run time into 2 or 3 segments. Wait an hour between each segment to allow the water to soak into the soil and establish deeper roots. Don't divide times into morning and evening cycles as this promotes shorter root growth.
- **Water during cooler hours.** The best time is between **9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.**, when temperatures are lower and evaporation is minimal.
- **Mow high and sharp.** Set your mower blade to **3 inches or higher** and keep it sharp to reduce stress on your grass.
- **Delay fertilizing.** Wait until fall to fertilize your lawn for better results and less water demand.

Trees & Shrubs

- **Prioritize woody plants.** Focus watering efforts on trees and shrubs, especially young ones—they're more valuable and harder to replace than grass.
- **Mulch around the base.** Mulch helps retain moisture and protect roots from heat.

Smart Irrigation

- **See Article: Smart Sprinkling**

Tips here taken from PBHMD website: <https://www.pbhmd.org/water-conservation-tips>.

For more information please visit our Water Demand Management Strategy page found here: <https://www.pbhmd.org/water-demand-management-strategy>.

Thanks and enjoy our wonderful Colorado summer!

Steve Knepper, ORC

Our District office is located at:
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