

# -WATER EFFICIENCY OUTDOORS-

## WHAT CAN WE DO TO PROTECT VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY WATER RESOURCES?

**Are you efficient when using water outdoors?** Water efficiency is the smart use of our water resources by practicing water saving measures. By following a few water saving techniques and taking simple steps around the house, we can help ensure reliable water supplies today and for future generations.

**Did you know?** Of the estimated 29 billion gallons of water used daily by households in the US, nearly 9 billion gallons, or 30 percent, is devoted to outdoor water use. In the hot summer months, or in dry climates, a household's outdoor water use can be as high as 70 percent.

### Follow these water-wise principles to help with water efficiency outdoors:

- Use native plants or other plants that require little water to thrive in our region.
- Keep soil healthy and add mulch to prevent water loss through evaporation.
- If watering with a hose, make sure it has a shut-off nozzle.
- Water in the morning to prevent water loss due to evaporation. Avoid watering when it is windy.
- If a sprinkler system is used, make sure it is properly set-up and maintained.
- Adjust sprinklers so they are not spraying water on paved surfaces such as the sidewalk or driveway.
- Instead of running sprinklers on a schedule, water only when grass needs it (or give it a good soak once a week). **Tip: If the grass springs back when you step on it, there is no need to water.**

### Here a few other tips to help become more water efficient outside:

- Sweep outdoor surfaces with a broom instead of using a hose.
- Wash vehicles at a commercial carwash that recycles its water or wash the car with water from a bucket if doing so at home
- Pool owners - use a cover to reduce water loss through evaporation.

**Information provided by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Alliance for Water Efficiency. For additional tips, visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) and [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org)**

