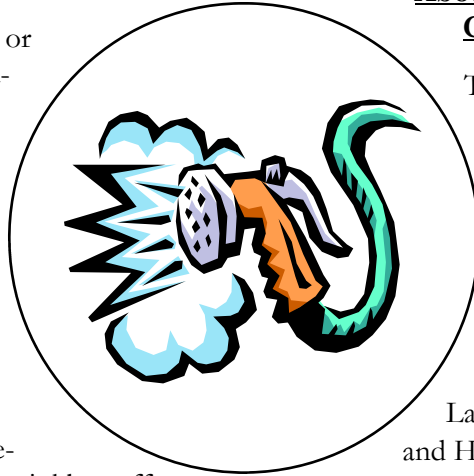


Outdoor Watering Tips

- ◆ Water lawns in the evening or early morning to reduce water loss through evaporation.
- ◆ Aerate once a year to help water penetrate into the clay soils common in our area. Aerate in the spring to improve drainage.
- ◆ Use a kitchen timer as a reminder when to turn your sprinklers off, or try an automatic shut-off timer.
- ◆ Train your turf to develop deep roots by less frequent yet more thorough watering. Deeper roots will enable plants to better utilize moisture deep in the soil. Shallow roots mean less resilient plants!
- ◆ Avoid watering on windy days.
- ◆ If water is flowing off the grass, split the watering time into two periods to allow soil to absorb water.
- ◆ Keep lawns free of weeds. Weeds are water thieves, and will rob your plants of water and nutrients. Spot spray or hand dig weeds as they appear.
- ◆ Increase your lawn mower blade height to 3 inches. This helps reduce soil temperature and water loss from evaporation. This



About the Popo Agie Conservation District

The Popo Agie Conservation District (PACD) is a local unit of government responsible for providing leadership for the development and implementation of natural resource programs and projects.

PACD's mission is to provide Lander, Fort Washakie, Jeffrey City and Hudson residents with the necessary information and technical assistance to support sustainable production from our soil and water resources.

PACD is governed by a body of five locally elected officials. We are proud to be able to offer a wide variety of assistance to both our urban and rural community.

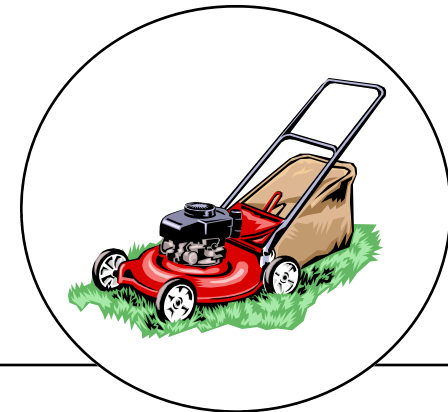
For More Information

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Funding for this water conservation project is provided by a grant from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

*Popo Agie
Conservation District
Presents:*

How Much Water Does My Lawn Need?



"Your Conservation Dollars At Work"

How do I know how much to water?

Your lawn often takes up the largest square footage in the landscape because it is the easiest and least expensive to install. It is estimated that there are over 20 million acres of lawn in the United States. Unfortunately, turf is the most expensive ground cover to maintain and requires more water than any other part of the landscape. The Popo Conservation District (PACD) has recognized the need to provide community members with information on water conservation practices for the home landscape.

The trouble with over watering

Watering more than you need too not only wastes water, but can also cause non-point source pollution. Non-point source pollution simply means that the source can be difficult to locate and may come from many different areas. For example, over watering lawns can cause lawn care chemicals, pesticides, and sediment to be carried into nearby water sources.

To help address this problem, PACD provides rain gauges to homeowners to help monitor the amount of water used. Simply push the rain gauge into the lawn about half

the distance between the sprinkler and the wetted perimeter. Use the scale on the side of the gauge to track the amount of water used on your lawn.

The best way to water turf efficiently is to determine how much water your sprinkler emits in one hour. For instance, if your sprinkler delivers two inches of water per hour, and your lawn needs one inch per week, you will need to run your sprinkler for 30 minutes each week.

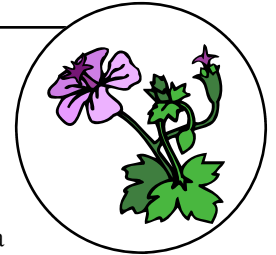
What are the minimum water requirements for my lawn?

The amount of water needed depends on the type of lawn you have. Different types of grasses have different water requirements, and some can remain green and healthy without many weekly waterings. *(Subtract any rainfall from these amounts).*

Water requirements in dry spells

Blue Grama	1/2 to 3/4 inch every two weeks
Buffalograss	1/2 to 3/4 inch every two weeks
Crested Wheatgrass	3/4 inch every week
Turf Type Tall Fescue	3/4 inch every week

**All grass varieties require less water during cooler periods of the growing season.*



What about Kentucky Bluegrass?

If you already have a Kentucky Bluegrass lawn, consider over seeding with a low-water use alternative. Turf Type Tall Fescue looks similar to Bluegrass and is easy to integrate into your existing lawn.

You can also utilize the tips on the back of this brochure to water your existing bluegrass turf more efficiently and with less cost than replacing your lawn.

Please note that your Kentucky Bluegrass lawn probably needs less water than you think. Even during the summer months, a healthy, thick bluegrass lawn will require approximately 3/4 inch of water per week.

Adding organic matter to your soil can also help your lawn stay healthy during hot weather by helping retain soil moisture. Leave those grass clippings alone after mowing, or add homemade compost to boost your soil's organic content. Compost or other organic matter adds nutrients to the soil and reduce fertilizer amounts.