



check your sprinkler system for leaks

Most sprinkler systems go on early in the morning when you are still sleeping. About once a month it's a good idea to turn your sprinklers on and check for leaks, overspray, and broken or misdirected sprinkler heads and emitters.



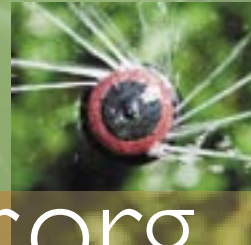
use water-wise plants

Whether you are putting in a new landscape or slowly changing the current landscaping at your home, select water-wise plants that are appropriate for our local climate. A searchable water-wise plant database is available at sbwater.org.

For more information:
sbwater.org or call 805-568-3440

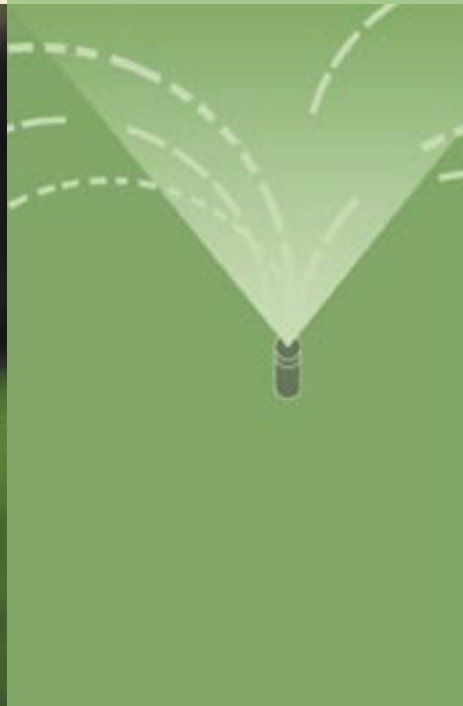
Provided by:
Family of Santa Barbara County Water Providers

how to be water-wise in Your Garden



sbwater.org

family of santa barbara county water providers



Knowing how much and how often to water your garden can be a mystery. The average person uses twice the amount of water needed to keep plants healthy. However, simple adjustments can make a big difference.

Here are easy ways to save water outdoors:



use the watering calculator

An easy way to determine how much and how often to water your garden is by using the landscape watering calculator at sbwater.org. Just enter your zip code, type of soil, plants and sprinklers into the watering calculator and it will provide you with a schedule. Then adjust your irrigation controller accordingly.



adjust sprinkler pressure

Pressure that is too high causes the water exiting the sprinkler to turn to mist, which can be blown away by even just a gentle breeze. Install a pressure regulator to increase the efficiency of your sprinklers.



install a rain sensor

Have this inexpensive device wired to your irrigation controller and it will automatically shut off your sprinklers when it is raining.



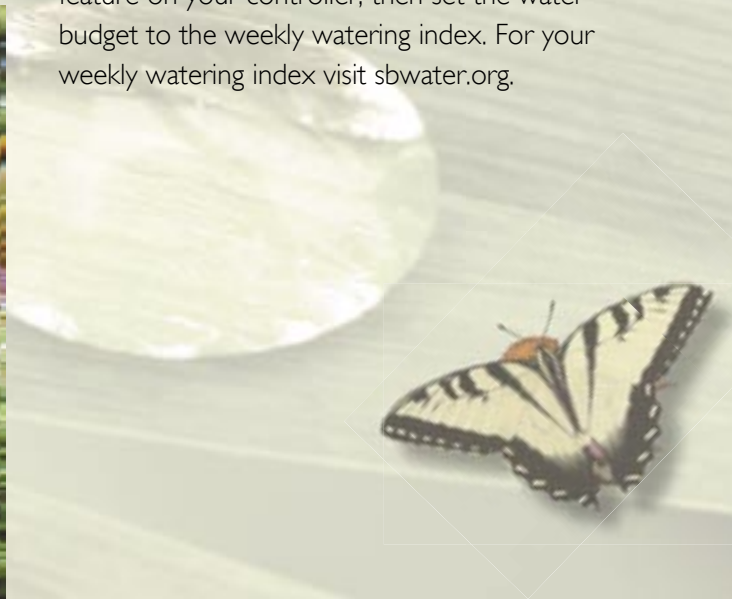
change your sprinkler timer battery

If your irrigation controller's backup battery is dead, a power outage will cause it to reset to the default settings, watering about twice as much as necessary. Replace your battery as needed, at least once a year.



change your watering schedule

On many irrigation controllers today, there is a feature called "water budget", or seasonal adjust, which lets you easily change your watering schedule as the weather changes. Locate the water budget feature on your controller, then set the water budget to the weekly watering index. For your weekly watering index visit sbwater.org.



smart irrigation controllers

Smart irrigation controllers automatically calculate a scientifically-based irrigation schedule using several factors, including your plant and soil type. These controllers then adjust the irrigation schedule as local weather changes. Whether it is for your home or your business, with smart irrigation controllers, you'll spend less time and money maintaining your landscape. For the latest information on smart irrigation controllers, go to sbwater.org.

sbwater.org

