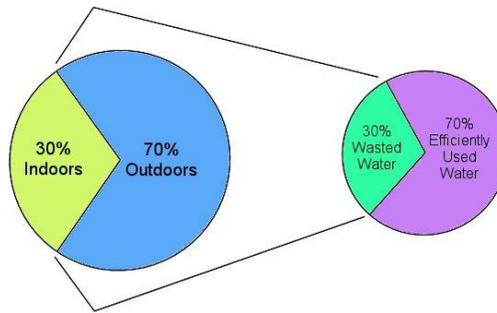


CONSERVATION CORNER

The Importance of Proper Irrigation

Since the drought we have heard numerous conservation messages through, radio ads, newspapers and the internet advertising turf removal programs, encouraging shorter showers and asking residents to reduce watering. Through the years, these methods have helped Southern California emerge as leaders in conservation. However, with changing weather conditions and our growing population, water resources are stretched, to say the least. EVERY drop REALLY counts!

The circle on the left represents total household water consumption, yellow represents indoor use and blue represents outdoor use. The circle on the right represents outdoor usage, the purple shows how much is used efficiently and the green shows how much is used inefficiently.



Listed below are some basic ways to reduce the amount of wasted water outdoors:

- 1) Look at your timer (this should be done with a landscape professional, if you have one), how long are they set for and how many days? If it's more than twenty minutes a WEEK, lower it. This is required by the Mandatory Water Use Restrictions set forth by the La Verne City Council.
- 2) Turn the system on and examine all heads. Check for broken or missing heads, heads buried under vegetation and tilted heads that may be spraying outside of the target area.
- 3) Check for overspray, while the system is running AND after watering is complete. If there is runoff, the time needs to be lowered and/or the heads need to be adjusted. If water is running off, the grass isn't absorbing it and it is wasted.
- 4) If you do find any of these issues within your irrigation system, please fix them within 48 hours, remember EVERY drop counts.

When runoff is created from overspray, wasted water is NOT the ONLY problem. The excessive water may cause property damage to walls, fences, city sidewalks or streets. It can also provide a method of carrying pollutants (trash, pet waste, pesticides, vehicle chemicals and metals etc.) into the ocean through the storm drains and pollute countless gallons of water, damaging wildlife and our food supply.

The City of La Verne hopes you have enjoyed learning about the importance of efficient irrigation and effective water use that benefits us and the Earth, instead of damaging it.

