



OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION

Much of the water used to irrigate lawns and gardens is wasted because it has not been applied properly. The following tips will help you conserve our precious resource, and allow you to save money on your monthly water bill.

- ② **Don't water the pavement. Routinely check your sprinkler systems for any misdirected, tilted, low, or broken heads. Be sure to fix any problems as soon as you detect them to avoid wasting water on sidewalks and streets.**

- ② **Don't waste Water. Too much water is not only wasteful but also harmful to the turf, and water is much too precious to waste, especially in times of drought. The best way to determine whether a lawn needs water is to step on the grass. If you leave a footprint, the grass needs to be watered.**

- ② **Equip your Irrigation System with a Moisture Sensor. Without a moisture sensor, an automatic timer will not account for the changing water requirements of a lawn. A moisture sensor will measure the amount of moisture in the soil and regulate the sprinkler system accordingly. It will automatically turn the water on and off when needed, saving money by reducing unnecessary applications of water.**

- ② **Don't Bag it. Grass clippings are about 90% water. They shrink and decompose readily and are a good source of nutrients to the lawn. Letting your grass clippings fall will return about 25% of your fertilizer to the soil in the form of organic matter. Another benefit is that the clippings will help shade the lawn and keep the soil cool and keep the soil cool in the summer months.**

Brought to you by the Town of Middleton Water Department