



TOWN OF WAYLAND WATER DEPARTMENT WELLHEAD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

TOWN BUILDING
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Dear Wayland Neighbor,

Your lawn, like your house, is a very valuable asset. So is Wayland's drinking water supply. As you may know, our water system is under stress, particularly during the summer.

Many homeowners don't realize how much more water they use during prime growing season. Water Department records indicate your water use is higher than average.

The Wayland Wellhead Protection Committee would like to offer you some **basic tips to promote smart water use**. These will help you save money, enhance the health of your lawn and plantings, and help ensure that during peak water use in the summer months, our water supply is protected and adequate for general use and for unexpected emergencies.

- 1) Comply with our town's outdoor watering restrictions: use underground and aboveground sprinklers on odd/even days only between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- 2) If you're going to water your lawn, WATER ONCE WISELY. Most lawns and native plantings don't need additional watering unless it rains less than one inch/week. Watering once a week promotes deeper root growth to survive summer conditions; watering every day or every other day actually results in a weaker lawn. For more information see <http://www.wickedlocal.com/wayland/homepage/x599202684/Tips-to-work-smarter-on-your-lawn>
- 3) To promote a healthier lawn, keep it mowed high (3 inches or more) to reduce weed growth, retain moisture, and encourage deeper grass roots.
- 4) Consider decreasing the size of your grass lawn areas, using drought tolerant and native plants. See suggestions at http://www.umassgreeninfo.org/fact_sheets/plant_culture/drought_tolerant_plants.pdf

Now is the time to check outside hoses, faucets and irrigation systems! Some develop leaks over the winter. Your maintenance contractor can check your irrigation system for possible undetected leaks.

Older irrigation systems also may not have the latest in gauges, timers and other conservation devices. Upgrading such features will help you conserve water and save money.

Additional information is available at <http://www.wayland.ma.us/water/index.html> and in the Water Department Office, now on the second floor of Town Building.

We wish you a green, healthy and water-smart summer!
Wayland Wellhead Protection Committee