

## Climate and Energy Action Plan Goals

NS-2-1: Evaluate the value and potential for incentives for practices that reduce use of potable water for non-potable purposes and recharge ground water.

- **Irrigation Evaluations**
  - Every year water conservation staff offer free irrigation system evaluations and indoor water use evaluations for all Ashland customers. Evaluations are offered during the summer months and consist of an assessment of the design, operation/management of sprinkler systems. Assistance with programming sprinkler controllers and developing watering schedules is also provided.
- **Lawn Replacement Program:**
  - Provides customers with a rebate for removing lawn and replacing with low water use and climate appropriate plants as well as more efficient irrigation systems. [www.ashland.or.us/lrp](http://www.ashland.or.us/lrp)
- **Graywater Reuse & Rainwater Catchment**
  - The City has developed information about graywater and rainwater catchment systems. A water use evaluation guide is now offered to help customers determine how much graywater they produce using plumbing fixtures such as showers and washing machines. The City has offered several workshops in the past few years on Graywater Reuse and Rainwater Catchment. We plan to continue to offer workshops in the future. More information can be found at [www.ashland.or.us/graywater](http://www.ashland.or.us/graywater)
- **Right Water Right Use**
  - The City will continue to replace potable water irrigation with TID irrigation where feasible. In addition, the City is committed to reduce evaporation and seepage losses from the canal where possible as well as improve water quality.
- **Water-Wise Landscaping Website**
  - Website designed to inspire the creation of landscapes that incorporate lower water use plants. It serves as a virtual demonstration garden that showcases examples from residents' landscapes and provides useful information on how to care for these plantings.
  - Fact sheets have been created for sustainable landscaping. [www.ashlandsaveswater.org](http://www.ashlandsaveswater.org)
- **Watering Hotline & Weather Station**
  - During the months of May through October, we provide weekly watering data to assist customers in programming their irrigation system controllers.
  - Local Evapotranspiration (ET) data from a weather station located at the Wastewater Treatment Plant is used to develop a suggested watering schedule for the week.  
<http://access.weatherreach.com/StationDetail?StationID=112&TableTimeInt=60>
- **Watering Calculator**
  - A water use calculator is available for customers to evaluate their own water use. [www.ashlandsaveswater.org](http://www.ashlandsaveswater.org)
- **Handouts / Resources**
  - Sampling watering guide for every two weeks throughout the summer months.
  - Water Saving guide for the outdoors. How to read your water meter, water your trees, reduce water use during drought. Additional information in the Public Outreach section below.

- **Landscaping and Irrigation Plan Review:**

- The City's Water Conservation Specialist reviews and provides comments on landscape and irrigation plans submitted to the Planning Division when applicable. Direction for meeting water efficiency standards is provided through the plan review process and directly to landscape designers.

NS-2.2: Explore water-efficient technologies on irrigation systems and consider requiring them during the permitting process.

- Water Conserving Landscaping. Commercial, industrial, non-residential, and mixed-use developments that are subject to chapter [18.5.2](#) Site Design Review, shall use plants that are low water use and meet the requirements of [18.4.4.030.I](#)
- Implemented a WaterSense Smart Irrigation Controller rebate program.
- At this time, irrigation controllers, water pressure regulators and backflow devices are required on new development.

NS-2-3: Expand water conservation outreach and incentive programs for residents and businesses.

The City provides technical assistance to residential and multi-family residential customers in a variety of ways to encourage and assist with implementing water conservation measures. In the last five years, we have expanded our program to include providing technical assistance to commercial and institutional customers. Currently all customer categories are eligible for our free evaluations, rebates and/or giveaways. Programs include, Indoor water evaluations, Irrigation system evaluations, appliance rebates and giveaways such as showerheads and aerators. We continue to work with trade allies to encourage production and installation of water efficient fixtures and products in accordance with Oregon's plumbing code regulations and the Oregon Landscape Contractors Board. This technical assistance is advertised in multiple ways and includes the following services:

- **Irrigation Evaluations & Indoor Evaluations**

- **Outdoor Water Evaluation** - Every year water conservation staff offer free irrigation system evaluations and indoor water use evaluations for all Ashland customers. Evaluations are offered during the summer months and consist of an assessment of the design, operation/management of sprinkler systems. Assistance with programming sprinkler controllers and developing watering schedules is also provided.
- **Indoor Water Evaluation** - evaluate water use on indoor plumbing fixtures, look for leaks and giveaway showerheads, aerators and toilet leak tablets.

- **Giveaways**

- Regularly giveaway low-flow aerators for bathroom and kitchen sinks, low-flow shower heads and soil moisture meters.

- **Rebates**

- **Toilets:** We offer rebates for replacing older toilets with more efficient WaterSense labeled toilets
- **Washing Machines:** We offer rebates for replacing older washing machines with more efficient Energy Star washers.
- **Lawn Replacement Program:** Provides customers with a rebate for removing lawn and replacing with low water use and climate appropriate plants as well as more efficient irrigation systems.
- **Smart Irrigation Controller:** Provide a rebate for the replacement of an older irrigation controller with an approved WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller.

- **Public Outreach:**
  - Water Wise Landscaping Website
  - Watering Hotline
  - Water Conservation Webpage
  - Handouts on watering schedules, tips for using water indoors and outdoors, how to read your meter handout, graywater, rainwater catchment, drought, how to water trees and much more.
  - Articles are written for the City Source newsletter that are delivered with utility bills monthly.
  - Participate in community events such as staffing a booth at Science Works on Earth Day or the Salmon Festival at North Mountain Park.
  - Advertisement at both movie theatres before every movie July – September.
  - Ashland Directory, Chamber, Parks & Rec Guide, City Hall, and Community Development building.
  - Presentations to local civic groups, north mountain park, grade schools, middle school, and college students, master gardeners and local garden clubs, restaurants, HOAs and businesses.
  - Four landscape Demonstration sites
  - Love Your Water Campaign
  
- **Potential Future Programs**
  - Exploring expansion of water smart landscape rebates and pressure reducing valve rebate program.

NS-3-1: Evaluate the potential for installation of rainwater collection systems at City facilities for graywater uses and investigate opportunities for graywater reuse at existing and new City facilities and properties.

- Continue to evaluate savings related to rainwater catchment and graywater use at City properties and parks. This action will be completed after a future facilities water audit. Problems: scope needs to be refined, also opportunity for graywater is limited.

**NS-3-2:** Implement efficiency recommendations for the City facilities water audit.

- We continue to explore this objective. At this time, a facilities water audit has not been conducted. However, water conservation staff is working with the Parks Department to identify efficiency upgrades needed in city parks.