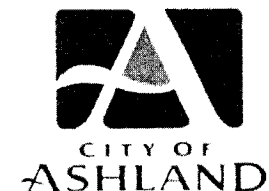


Drought update submitted by Staff
8.4.15
Surviving Drought



A Guide for Water Conservation

Learn how you can help to
preserve Ashland's precious water
supply during drought



Contact Us

Water Conservation Division



Resources & Questions:
www.ashland.or.us/conserve
www.ashland.or.us/drought2015
www.ashlandsaveswater.org

Conservation Staff: (541) 552-2062
Watering Infoline: (541) 552-2057
Email: julie.smitherman@ashland.or.us

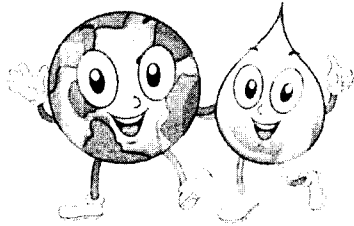
51 Winburn Way
Ashland, OR 97520

CITY OF ASHLAND



Created by
Julie Smitherman
Carolyne Augsburg
Randall Fitzpatrick

Creative Conservation!



illustrationsof.com 1094786

Keep a bucket in your bathroom and/or kitchen
and under your hanging baskets to collect
graywater! This water can be used again for
watering.



Try using innovative ways of growing vegetables,
such as an aeroponic garden.



Rather than letting the tap run until cool, put a
pitcher of drinking water in the fridge.



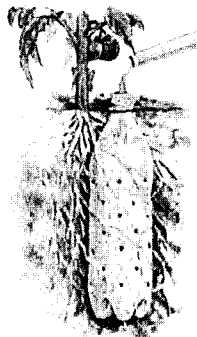
Drain your kids' pool by pouring the water under
a tree



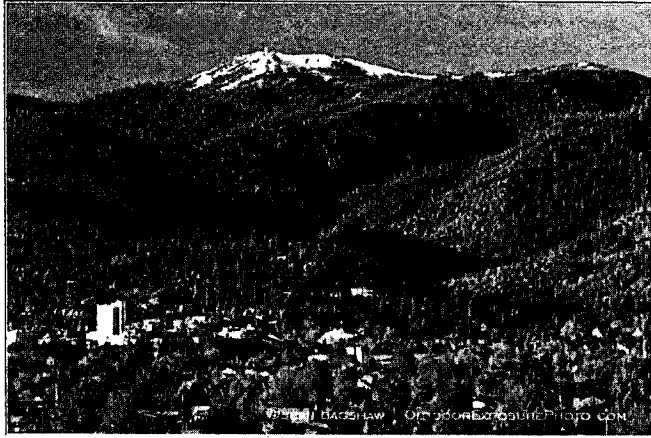
Wash your pet outside over an area that needs
watering



Collect rainwater to use for your plants



Ashland's Precious Water



Ashland's primary source of water is collected from rainfall and snowmelt in the Ashland Creek Watershed and stored in Reeder Reservoir high above town.

We depend on the snowpack that collects in our watershed to be there to refill our reservoir and get us through the summer months.

The lack of snowpack this past winter means our water supply is limited and we all need to make sure we are using our water as efficiently as possible.

The good news is that there are a lot of simple ways to reduce the amount of water we use both indoors and outdoors; here are our programs and some great water saving tips!

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

- Lawn Replacement Program
- Sprinkler System Evaluations
- Indoor Water Use Evaluations
- Toilet, dishwasher and clothes washer rebates
- Giveaways (showerheads, aerators, toilet leak detect tablets, and moisture meters)

OUTDOOR WATER SAVING TIPS

- ☆ Water plants only when they need it
- ☆ Prioritize your watering needs by watering trees first then shrubs and flowers and then lawn
- ☆ Check soil moisture before watering by using a soil moisture meter
- ☆ Let the soil dry between watering. Roots will grow deeper looking for water below the surface
- ☆ Adjust sprinkler timers throughout the summer to account for current weather conditions
- ☆ Adjust sprinklers so only plants are being watered and not the street or sidewalk
- ☆ Check for leaks (read your meter)
- ☆ Use sprinkler timers to avoid overwatering
- ☆ Water between the hours of 8 PM and 6 AM
- ☆ Add mulch to your garden beds to lock in moisture and minimize evaporation
- ☆ Cover the swimming pool to reduce evaporation
- ☆ Wash your car using a bucket
- ☆ Sweep instead of hosing off driveways, sidewalks, and steps
- ☆ Replace lawn areas with drought tolerant plants; ask about our **Lawn Replacement Program!**
- ☆ Visit Ashland's WaterWise website when deciding what to plant at ashlandsaveswater.org



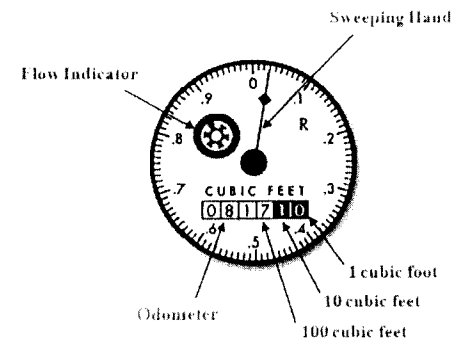
Call the **Conservation Division** to schedule an indoor or outdoor water audit!

INDOOR WATER SAVING TIPS

- ☆ Turn water off when you brush your teeth
- ☆ Take short showers instead of baths
- ☆ Apply for rebates from the city when purchasing EnergyStar™ and WaterSense™ appliances, such as toilets, dishwashers, and clothes washers
- ☆ Avoid letting the water run when rinsing vegetables, cleaning dishes or defrosting food
- ☆ Fix leaks promptly. Even a small faucet drip can waste several gallons of water each day
- ☆ Wait until you have a full load of dishes before running your dishwasher
- ☆ When washing clothes, adjust the water level to fit the size of the load
- ☆ Avoid using the toilet as a wastebasket



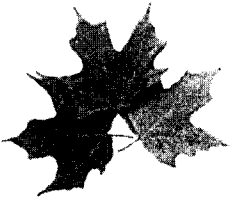
Reading Your Meter



Read the "odometer" on two consecutive days and subtract the second number from the first to get the total daily usage in *cubic feet*. Multiply that number by 7.48 to get your usage in gallons.

DECIDUOUS

Deciduous trees typically lose their leaves seasonally, usually during the autumn months. They have flat, broad leaves, used to catch light. Deciduous trees can be found in most regions of the world. A few deciduous trees commonly found in Ashland are Madrones, Willows, Alders, Cottonwoods, Ashes, and California Black Oaks. These trees are mostly tolerant of poorly drained soils, with high clay content.

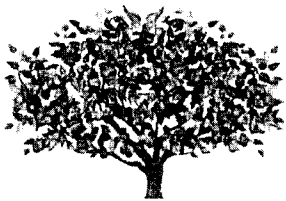


CONIFEROUS

Coniferous trees typically grow cones, and have leaves that are either long, pointed needles or are small, flat scales. Most coniferous trees are also evergreens, but it is important to note that not *all* coniferous trees are evergreens. Coniferous trees common to this area are Douglas Fir, White Fir, Sugar Pine, Ponderosa Pine, and Cedar. These trees prefer well drained soils, with high sand content.



Fruit trees are similar to deciduous trees in that they lose their leaves seasonally. The difference is that fruit grows seasonally, ranging from late spring to early winter. Some fruit trees around Ashland are Apple, Cherry, Fig, Plum, and Pear. Most are tolerant of poorly drained soil and prefer full sun.



Contact Us

Water Conservation Division



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CITY OF
ASHLAND



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Julie Smitherman
Carolyn Augsburg
Jordan Lewis

Tree Care



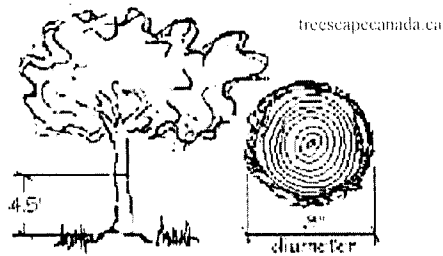
A Guide for Watering Trees

Learn how Ashland residents
can properly and efficiently
water their trees



How Much to Water

As a general rule of thumb, for every one inch of trunk caliper (tree diameter), your tree needs 5-10 gallons of water; how often will depend on the maturity of the tree.



How Often to Water

In drought, don't stop watering altogether.

Young trees (1-3 years) generally require about 5-7 gallons *per week* for every one inch of trunk caliper.

Mature trees require 8-10 gallons about every two weeks for every one inch of trunk caliper.

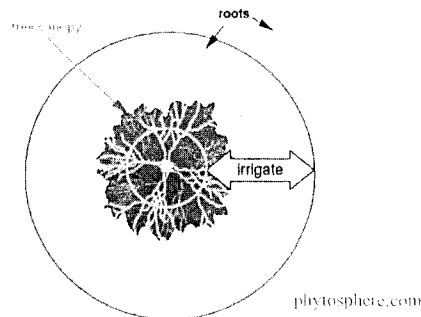
How to Water

There are several different ways to water your trees.

- ◆ Open the hose slightly with a timer on the spigot
- ◆ Use a soaker hose around the canopy line of the tree
- ◆ Water with a drip irrigation system
- ◆ Use a 5 gallon bucket with small holes drilled into it
- ◆ Use a small sprinkler on hose with timer on spigot

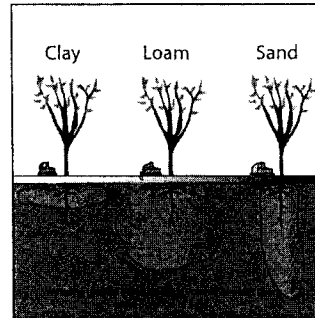
Where to Water

To encourage outward root growth, water deeply and at the edge of the canopy, rather than right next to the trunk.



Soil Types

Determining what texture of soil you have is crucial to knowing how well it will absorb water and which watering technique is best suited for your trees.



Clay Soils hold water well and cause water to spread out horizontally. **Loam Soils** contain a high amount of broken down, organic matter. **Sandy Soils** are less likely to have runoff and water tends to run straight down.

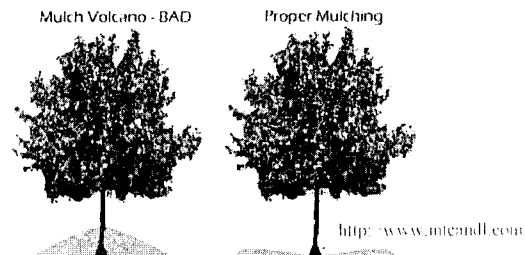
Slope

Soil type and slope determine how effectively water will absorb into the ground and reach the tree's roots.

When watering in steep slope areas, it is crucial to apply water slowly to prevent water from running off.

Benefits of Mulching

Mulching reduces soil moisture loss, insulates soil which protects roots from extreme temperatures, and improves soil fertility as the mulch decomposes.



By correctly using mulch, building a water basin around the tree trunk, and watering slowly in multiple cycles, your trees will thrive.

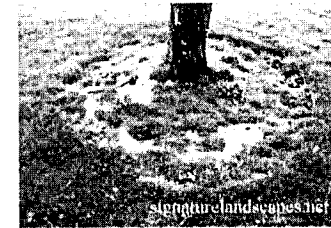
Symptoms of Drought

- ▲ Wilting or browning leaves on deciduous trees
- ▲ Deciduous trees dropping leaves prematurely
- ▲ Short flowering time on fruit trees
- ▲ Fruit dropping prematurely from fruit trees
- ▲ Conifer needles changing to yellow, red, or purple
- ▲ Cracking wood or bark



Symptoms of Overwatering

- ▲ Yellow leaves, usually starting on the lower branches, at the inside of the canopy
- ▲ Wilting of young shoots
- ▲ Brittle, green leaves
- ▲ Black or dark brown roots (root rot)
- ▲ Fungus or algae growing on the soil surface or on surface roots



When in Doubt, Call an Arborist

Arborists are professionals trained in the art and science of planting and maintaining trees. They are trained to provide proper care. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the health and safety of your trees, call a local arborist for recommendations.

