

The Villages



WATER WISDOM

SMART MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES IN FLORIDA'S FRIENDLIEST HOMETOWN

Water Wisely

According to SWFWMD, the basic principle of lawn and garden watering is not to over water. Irrigation systems should only be operated when the lawn begins to show signs of stress. This will encourage deeper root growth, which will help to develop more drought tolerant lawns and landscaping. It will also save water, which protects our water resources and provides savings on water bills. Signs of stress include lingering footprints or mower tracks, grass blades or leaf blades beginning to close lengthwise and the top few inches of soil feeling dry.

Lawns will generally need water before landscape plants (excluding flowers). Therefore, if the lawn is being irrigated when it shows signs of stress, the landscape plants will be adequately irrigated. Flower beds should be hand watered with a hose using an automatic shut off nozzle. Also, if the lawn has dry spots, use a hose with an automatic shut of nozzle to apply water where it's needed, instead of watering the entire lawn.

Keep up to date on water conservation tips and projects at www.thevillageswaterwisdom.com.

Making small changes can make a big difference.