



City of Davis Public Works Department

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Environmental column

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By Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator

WORKING TOGETHER TO CONSERVE WATER

One of the biggest sources of wasted water comes from irrigation. Please irrigate your landscape only when necessary. Do your part and adjust your irrigation timers accordingly. You may be able to shut your irrigation off for now and turn it on again when the weather gets warm and the soil begins to dry out. If your landscaper sets your irrigation timer, ask them to turn it off for you until it's necessary to irrigate again. Irrigating while it's raining wastes gallons of water that we'll all want and need during the peak heat of summer.



If you don't have automatic irrigation, consider purchasing a hose timer. The timer can be set for variable lengths of time and will automatically shut off at the designated time. This will ensure that the area will not be over watered, even if you get distracted and leave the water running.

Other easy ways you can conserve water:

- Fix leaky faucets—a leak could mean 360 gallons of water lost each day.
- Work out early and shower just once a day, instead of once in the morning and once in the evening.
- Standard showerheads are one of the biggest water consumers in your home. Replace your old showerhead with a water conserving showerhead to cut its water consumption by 50%. Shorten your showers a little and save even more water.
- Water your landscape early in the morning or late at night when it cools to reduce water loss due to evaporation.
- Let your grass grow a little taller to increase the moisture retention of the soil.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your sidewalk and driveway. You'll get a good workout and you'll save water. Keep in mind that an average garden hose uses 650+ gallons per hour!
- Apply mulch to your landscape to improve the quality of your soil and to maintain soil moisture.

We need everyone's help to conserve water. Please be conscious when you turn on the tap that every drop is important. More water conservation tips are available online at www.cityofdavis.org.

2009 BULKY ITEM DROP-OFF DAYS

The 2009 Bulky Item Drop-Off Days begins Thursday, April 2nd (4pm-7pm) and continues through Friday, April 3rd (4 pm- 7pm) and Saturday, April 4th (10 am-4 pm) at Davis Waste Removal, located at 2727 2nd Street.

Bring your unwanted bulky items: refrigerators and freezers (limit of two), large appliances, mattresses, furniture, sinks, bathtubs, toilets, wood scraps, scrap metal, electronics, TVs, microwaves, computers and other bulky items for **FREE disposal!**

Please be advised that this service is available for Davis residents only. ID will be checked at the drop-off. Commercial haulers and business materials **WILL NOT** be accepted.

Please **DO NOT** bring soil, dirt, concrete, asphalt, tires, hazardous waste, and regular household garbage—these items **WILL NOT** be accepted at the Bulky Items Drop-Off. These items can be brought to the landfill everyday for recycling and disposal. Standard fees will apply.

Also, don't miss this month's **FREE** Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-Off events March 13th and 14th, (9am-2pm) at the Yolo County Central Landfill located at County Roads 28h & 104.

Bring your old or unused paints, pesticides, fluorescent light bulbs, household cleaners, expired medicines and more for **FREE** and safe disposal. Future HHW Drop-Off events are coming April 3rd and 4th, (9am-2pm), so mark your calendars!

Check out the reuse opportunities at the landfill as well! During the HHW Drop-Off event reusable items are available for **FREE!** Stop by the landfill during a HHW Drop-Off event to take your pick of free paints, fertilizers, household cleaners and more!

For more information, visit www.davisrecycling.org or email me at PWweb@cityofdavis.org.