

WATER CONSERVATION

Austin Water

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# RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

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Water Conservation



[AustinWater.org](http://AustinWater.org) • [watercon@austintexas.gov](mailto:watercon@austintexas.gov) • 512-974-2199 option 4



# CITY OF AUSTIN WATER CONSERVATION CODE

The City of Austin's water management plan outlines how commercial and residential water customers may use water in and around their homes and businesses while protecting our water resources for the future. For the **current restriction stage**, **rebate application instructions** and **forms**, visit [WaterWiseAustin.org](http://WaterWiseAustin.org).

## Landscape Survival Tools Rebates for Your Yard

Prepare your yard for Austin's long hot summer. By using a combination of mulch, compost and core aeration of your lawn, you will be prepared for the damage long hot days of summer can do to your yard. These techniques will ensure that water stays on your yard, reducing the need for supplemental irrigation. Austin Water has rebates for each of these tools.

- ◆ Compost: 2 cubic yards or 54 cubic feet  
Rebate **\$50**
- ◆ Mulch: 2 cubic yards or 54 cubic feet  
Rebate **\$40**
- ◆ Core aeration service for entire front and/or back lawn area (equipment rental is acceptable) Rebate **\$30**
- ◆ Maximize your rebate by doing all three **\$120**

## WaterWise Landscape Rebate Program

The Rebate Program offers cash incentives to decrease outdoor irrigation. Austin Water customers who replace a minimum of 500 sq feet of healthy turf grass with native plant beds may be eligible for **\$100** per 100 square feet, up to **\$3,000** in rebates. WaterWise landscaping can reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental watering.

## WaterWise Rainscape Rebate Program

The Rebate Program helps residents and schools install landscape features (berms, terraces, swales, rain gardens, porous pavement, etc.) to keep and beneficially use rainwater on the property. The rebate pays **\$.50** for every square foot (100 sq. ft. minimum) converted, up to **\$1,500** per property.

## Irrigation Upgrade Rebate

Customers may receive up to **\$1,000** in rebates for making improvements to their existing irrigation systems to increase water efficiency. New irrigation systems and expansions to existing systems are not eligible.

## Laundry to Landscape Rebate

The rebate of up to **\$150** can help customers buy equipment to reuse laundry graywater to water the landscape, reusing about 10 to 25 gallons of water per load for a horizontal-axis machine, or about 40 gallons per load for a vertical axis machine.

## Pool Cover Rebate

Installing a properly fitted swimming pool cover can reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation, decrease the amount of debris in the pool, and help lower pool maintenance costs. Customers can receive a rebate for **50 percent** of the purchase price up to **\$50** for a new manual pool cover; or **\$200** for a new permanent, mechanical pool cover.

## Free Irrigation System Evaluations

Austin Water offers free irrigation evaluations for its residential customers with high irrigation water use. During the evaluation, a licensed irrigator will provide an overview of your system's performance and make recommendations for scheduling changes and equipment upgrades. Services provided include:

- Controller settings check
- Inspection of components during operation
- Flow rates and recommended usage for each station
- Suggestions for improvement

To schedule a free evaluation, call **512-974-2199** or schedule online at [WaterWiseAustin.org](http://WaterWiseAustin.org).



## Pool Cartridge Filter Rebate

The rebate pays customers up to **\$250** toward the cost of replacing a sand or D.E. (diatomaceous earth) pool filter with a high-efficiency cartridge pool filter that can save between 2,000 and 8,000 gallons of backwash water annually.

## Rainwater Harvesting Rebate

Rebates of **\$0.50** per gallon capacity for non-pressurized systems or **\$1.00** per gallon capacity for pressurized systems up to a maximum rebate of **\$5,000** or 50% of the equipment cost, whichever is less, are available for rainwater harvesting systems.

## Showerheads and Faucet Aerators

Shower and faucet use makes up about 30% of all water consumed in the home. Customers may increase home water savings by installing efficient showerheads and faucet aerators. Austin Water customers may receive a limited number of free showerheads and aerators while supplies last. You can pick up or have them mailed to you by filling out an online form [austintexas.gov/department/rebates-tools-programs](http://austintexas.gov/department/rebates-tools-programs) or by calling 512-974-2199 option 4.

## Soil Moisture Meter

Make the most of your outdoor watering with a **free** soil moisture meter from Austin Water. These easy-to-read devices measure the relative moisture of your soils, which can help you decide when and where to apply supplemental water (allowed any day and time with a hand-held hose or can). Austin Water customers may receive one per customer while supplies last. You can fill out a form online on our website [austintexas.gov/department/rebates-tools-programs](http://austintexas.gov/department/rebates-tools-programs) or by calling 512-974-2199 option 4.

## Pressure Reduction Valve Rebates

Pressure above 80 PSI (pounds per square inch) in your water line may result in waste and damage to equipment and plumbing. Customers may receive a rebate of **\$150** for a pressure reduction valve to lower water pressure and keep water efficiency high.

## My ATX Water

Austin's Smart Water Meter System, is replacing analog water meters with electronically read meters connected to a wireless network. The My ATX Water customer portal will provide near real time, daily water use data and custom notifications.

### Benefits to Customers

- ◆ Customized Notifications – Sign up for custom notifications if your water use suddenly increases, indicating a possible water leak.
- ◆ Daily Water Use Updates – Your data is at your fingertips. Know how much water you are using.
- ◆ Water Budgeting Feature – Sign up for alerts if your water usage is exceeding your threshold.
- ◆ Tools to reduce your water use and save money
  - Water-use reports help you manage and reduce your water use to save on your monthly bill.
  - Suggestions provide ways to save water and links to conservation programs and rebates.
  - Utility announcements and alerts share new conservation programs and information.

Find more information at [myatxwater.org](http://myatxwater.org).

## Water Timer Rebate

Customers may receive a rebate of up to **\$40** for a watering timer that gives more control over hose-end watering.

When buying new water using appliance or plumbing fixtures, look for EPA's ENERGY STAR® or WaterSense® label.



# CONSERVATION STAGE WATERING RESTRICTIONS



Watering restrictions can vary depending on current conditions.

Check [WaterWiseAustin.org](http://WaterWiseAustin.org) or call Water Conservation at 512-974-2199 for the most up-to-date water restrictions.

Please note that watering days and times and other restrictions have changed with the passage of the new Water Management Plan in August 2016. Five drought stages ramp up water use restrictions during times of drought to maximize water conservation. These stages are aligned with drought triggers such as lake levels and water consumption. Conservation staff enforce the Water Use Management Ordinance and can issue violations.

## CONSERVATION STAGE

### RESIDENTIAL



#### AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION

Even Address: **THURSDAY**  
Odd Address: **WEDNESDAY**



#### HOSE-END SPRINKLERS

Even Address: **THU • SUN**  
Odd Address: **WED • SAT**



#### HOURS FOR BOTH

Midnight - 10 AM  
7 PM - Midnight



#### Home Car Wash

Allowed with Bucket or Auto Shut-Off Hose

### COMMERCIAL/ MULTI-FAMILY



#### AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION

Even Address: **TUESDAY**  
Odd Address: **FRIDAY**



#### HOSE-END SPRINKLERS

Even Address: **TUESDAY**  
Odd Address: **FRIDAY**



#### HOURS FOR BOTH

Midnight - 10 AM  
7 PM - Midnight



Tree Bubblers, Hand-Held Hose, and Drip Irrigation:  
**Any Day/Any Time**

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS



#### AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION

**MONDAY**  
Athletic Fields Exempt



#### HOSE-END SPRINKLERS

**MONDAY**  
Athletic Fields Exempt



#### HOURS FOR BOTH

Midnight - 10 AM  
7 PM - Midnight



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