

Connecticut Water Reminds Customers to Use Water Wisely This Summer

Average Connecticut Water Company Customer Use Increases 77% During Summer Months

CLINTON, Conn. — June 7, 2021 — Connecticut Water reminds residents that water is a precious resource and using water wisely this summer can ensure that we have enough water for basic needs, economic development and the environment.

Things like irrigation systems, pools and washing vehicles can cause water use to increase during the summer months. This adds to customers' bills and puts greater strain on the environment and water resources. Historically, Connecticut Water customers average about 77% more water use in the summer months. Many homes with lawn irrigation can use 2.5 times the amount of water during the season than the winter. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense program reports that half of the water we use outdoors goes to waste from evaporation, wind, or runoff due to overwatering.

Customers can enjoy the summer season outdoors and keep their plants happy while saving with these tips:

- Water only when your yard needs it. For most yards, this is less than three times a week. If you step on the grass and it springs back, there's no need to water
- Use a rain gauge: Put a rain gauge in your yard and if you receive $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch of rain in a week, you can skip your next lawn watering
- Avoid giving your lawn a buzz cut—longer grass promotes a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced evaporation and fewer weeds
- Aerate your lawn: Lawn aeration helps strengthen and lengthen roots so that your lawn will require less water in the future
- Regularly check your irrigation system for leaks, wayward sprays, and to be sure sprinkler flow is landing on your lawn instead of the sidewalk, road or driveway
- Use a bucket to wash your car—you'll save about 150 gallons of water each time you don't use a hose
- Water your car on the grass and you'll be watering your lawn at the same time!
- Use a pool cover: it reduces evaporation and can save you up to 1,000 gallons of water each month
- Turn down the pool heater: hotter water evaporates more quickly

And finally, consider a rain barrel. Rain barrels collect and store the rain water that would otherwise run off your roof. Water collected can be used to water outdoor plants when needed instead of turning on your hose or sprinklers.

Connecticut Water offers discounted rain barrels for purchase and contact-free delivery through a partnership with Upcycle Products that repurposes food-grade containers for rain barrels. Customers can purchase via this link:

<https://upcycle-products.com/ct/cwc/>

To encourage water conservation this summer, the first 50 Connecticut Water customers who purchase a rain barrel and email their receipt to customerservice@ctwater.com will receive a \$25 credit on their next water bill.

For more information about ways to conserve water indoors and outdoors, please visit www.ctwater.com/conservation.

About Connecticut Water Company: Connecticut Water is a public water and wastewater utility regulated by the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority that provides water service to more than 350,000 people in 60 Connecticut communities and wastewater service to 10,000 people in Southbury, Connecticut.

The towns served are Ashford, Avon, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Bolton, Brooklyn, Burlington, Canton, Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Columbia, Coventry, Deep River, Durham, East Granby, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Essex, Farmington, Griswold, Guilford, Haddam, Hebron, Killingly, Killingworth, Lebanon, Madison, Manchester, Mansfield, Marlborough, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Oxford, Plainfield, Plymouth, Portland, Prospect, Simsbury, Somers, South Windsor, Southbury, Stafford, Stonington, Suffield, Thomaston, Thompson, Tolland, Vernon, Voluntown, Waterbury, Westbrook, Willington, Windsor Locks and Woodstock.

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