At least 30 percent of water used annually by a single-family suburban household is for outdoor irrigation. A large portion of that goes to waste through evaporation or runoff caused by over-watering. The following landscape tips will help you conserve water—and save money.

Let it grow.

Adjust the height of your lawn mower to cut your grass higher. This helps protect roots from heat stress and reduces the loss of moisture to evaporation.

Stay true to your roots.

Promote deep root growth with proper watering, aerating, fertilization, grass-clipping control, and attention to lawn height. A lawn with deep roots requires less water and is more resistant to drought and disease.

Sidewalks don’t need water.

Avoid planting turf in areas that are difficult to irrigate properly, such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways.

Online Bill Payer Alert!

Effective July 1, 2017, if you are using an online bill payer, such as a bank to pay your water bill, Skagit PUD will not be able to process your payment unless the Customer Account Number is updated with the bill payer. The Customer Account Number information can be found in the top right-hand corner of your Skagit PUD bill. Please notify your bill payer to ensure that your payment gets properly credited to your account.

Enjoy ‘SPAWNtaneous’ Fun at Skagit River Salmon Festival

Join us at the Skagit River Salmon Festival on Saturday, September 9 at Edgewater Park in Mount Vernon. A FREE family event celebrating our mighty Skagit River. Live music, great food, Kidz Zone activities, raptor shows, local artisans, and lots of fun activities for all ages.

Come learn about our amazing Skagit River watershed. Discover ways you can enjoy and help protect its resources, with over 25 environmental agencies and nature groups on-site. Info at SkagitRiverFest.org.
Water Quality Reports Online

Each year, Skagit PUD provides its customers with an annual Water Quality Report to let them know how our water quality stacks up against established federal and state drinking water standards. We encourage you to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to your community in 2016.

Included with the report is the annual progress update on Skagit PUD’s Water Use Efficiency goals.

To view the reports, visit http://www.skagitpud.org/media/65017/CCR2016.pdf.

If you wish to have a paper copy, you can print one directly from our website or you can receive a printed version by contacting the Water Quality department at (360) 848-2135.

Slow the Flow: Lawn & Garden Tips

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Keep it cool.

Water your lawn and landscape plants early in the morning when the sun’s rays aren’t working to evaporate your water.

Plug away.

Aerate clay soils at least once a year to help the soil absorb and retain moisture, which helps your plants.

Make the beds.

Add a two- to three-inch layer of mulch around flowers, shrubs and trees to help the soil retain moisture, discourage the growth of weeds, and provide essential nutrients.

Remember, April showers bring May flowers.

Plant in the spring or fall when lower temperatures mean plants use less water.

Don’t water in the rain.

Consider installing a rainfall or soil moisture sensor for your automatic sprinkler system. Rainfall sensors stop watering in the rain and moisture sensors monitor the soil to determine when and how much water is needed.

Soak, don’t spray.

Install drip-irrigation or soaker hoses for more efficient watering in planting beds and beneath shrubs and trees.

Think small.

When choosing plants, keep in mind that younger, smaller ones require less water to become established.

Conserve water naturally.

Select plants that are native to your region and can thrive with little or no extra watering. Your local nursery can help you identify and select drought-tolerant plants.

Do it the hard way.

Use a broom or rake (not the hose) to remove debris from driveways and walkways. It saves water and it’s good exercise.

Conserving water is good for all of us.

Using less water means less energy is used to treat it, pump it, and distribute it. By conserving water, you are helping maintain our natural resources.

We can all pitch in and slow the flow!

SOURCE: American Water Works Association

GO LOW FLOW

For only $11, Skagit PUD sells a water efficiency kit that contains a multi-mode massage showerhead and ultra-efficient faucet aerators. Install these items today for more efficient and enjoyable showering with better faucet flow.

For more information about water-saving ideas, please visit our website at SkagitPUD.org or call (360) 424-7104.