



# HELP YOUR TREES SURVIVE THE DROUGHT

**BE WATER-WISE.  
IT'S EASY.  
HERE'S HOW.**

Trees and water are both precious resources. Trees make our houses feel like home — they also improve property values, clean our water & air, and even make our streets safer & quieter. When we water wisely and maintain our trees carefully, we enjoy a wide range of benefits at a low cost and with little effort.

## YOUNG TREES

The roots of younger trees are less established & need easier access to water to establish deep root systems.

## MATURE TREES

Mature trees require MORE water when growing near heat traps such as driveways and foundations.

## EXPOSED TREES

Water loss is greater where trees are exposed to hot afternoon sun and strong or constant wind.

## DECIDUOUS TREES

The critical time for water is during bud-break in spring when new buds and leaves are forming.



## THE RIGHT AMOUNT

Water young trees twice per week (about 5 gallons) and mature trees once per week in several places (the equivalent of 1 to 1.5 inches of rain).

## IN THE RIGHT PLACE

Water the “drip zone,” area directly beneath the foliage and shaded by the tree. Also, add mulch to lower soil temperatures & reduce water evaporation.

## CONSERVE & RECYCLE WATER

**Inside:** Place buckets in the shower to collect warm up water. Recycle water from the dehumidifier, collect air conditioning condensation, & “save a flush” to conserve.  
**Outside:** Convert irrigation systems to drip, low-flow or micro sprays and fix leaks.

## THE RIGHT TIME

Water early in the morning or after the sun has set, as this is when trees replace the water they’ve lost during the day. Also less water is lost to evaporation at these times. Mulching your tree will also keep soils warmer in winter and cooler in summer.

## DON'T WASTE WATER

Water so that it soaks into the ground rather than running off into the drain.

## THE RIGHT WAY

During drought, water directly with a hose or 5-gallon bucket.

## THE RIGHT DEPTH

Deep watering helps deep root growth and healthier trees.

## THE RIGHT CHOICE

Plant native or drought resistant tree species that require less water. Choose trees over lawn as trees are a long term investment.



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