



**Healthier  
lawns  
with  
less  
water.  
Everyone  
can  
do it.**



**LONE  
STAR**

GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# Healthier Lawns with Less Water: It IS Possible

You can cut your water consumption by 20% or more by just “teaching” your lawn to thrive on less water. Thanks to the deep moisture from this spring’s heavy rains, you’re off to a good start.

Now, follow some helpful tips as we head into summer.

## **Your lawn is not as thirsty as you might think.**

Frequent watering encourages the grass roots to spread out in the first 2 to 4 inches of topsoil, if it’s learned that’s where easy moisture will always be. However, the natural tendency of any plant is to send its roots searching deep for the moisture that is nearly always 6 to 12 inches below the surface or even deeper. If you’ll just start watering less – and less frequently – you’ll begin to encourage this natural tendency, and your yard will need less and less water to stay healthy and green.

## **Wilted grass isn’t necessarily thirsty.**

During our hot Texas summers, mid-day heat will cause the grass blades to wilt slightly and possibly turn a little pale. That is rarely a sign of heat stress; more likely, it’s just temporary evaporative loss of the moisture in the grass blades. Notice that the morning dew, which we always have, freshens the grass right up for the next day.

## **Make sure your lawn really needs water.**

You can easily tell how much moisture is available for your lawn. Take a hand trowel and dig a small hole 6 to 12 inches below the surface. If the soil is moist, the lawn does not need water. Don’t worry if the top inch or two from the surface has dried out from heat and/or lack of rain; that’s actually good for the long term health of your lawn because it encourages deeper root growth.

## **Do your part for conservation.**

Montgomery County has one of the fastest growing populations in the state and our water supplies ARE limited. If we don’t learn how to conserve, someday we’ll be faced with higher and higher water costs or – worse yet – water rationing. But if all of us will do our part, we can keep this from happening.

Water IS our most precious natural resource. We all need to do our part to conserve it so that we’ll have plenty for generations to come.



**Water Smart**  
watersmart.org

**Don't be Waterless.  
Water Less.  
Water Smart.**

*This message brought to you by the:*  
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*Working together to conserve and protect  
our most precious natural resource: WATER!*