



Save Water for Earth Day 2016

This April 22nd marks the 46th anniversary of Earth Day, and what better way to celebrate than saving water in the great outdoors? You can get started with some of the outdoor water-saving tips below while you reconnect with nature and give back to the earth by saving water in your lawn or garden this spring.

Here are six simple tips to preserve this precious resource:

1. **Check the time:** Water your yard in the morning or evening to avoid losing water to evaporation in the heat of the day.
2. **Get in the “hydro” zone:** Group the plants in your garden according to their water needs, also known as using “hydrozones,” which reduce the risk of over watering your plants.
3. **Use mulch:** Adding mulch in your garden helps reduce evaporation, inhibit weed growth, moderate soil temperature, and prevent erosion.
4. **Keep control:** Upgrade to a WaterSense labeled controller, which acts like a thermostat for your sprinkler system using actual local weather conditions to tailor your watering schedule.
5. **Compost:** Instead of sending organic waste from your kitchen down the garbage disposal with water, add them to a compost pile. You can then use the compost as nutrient-rich soil to add to your garden.



Commit to save water!

WaterSense®

Take the US EPA Watersense “*I’m for Water*” pledge and use their “**2016 monthly resolutions checklist**” to extend your Earth Day water conservation to a year-round effort at:

epa.gov/watersense/pledge

For more information please visit the City’s water website at: www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks