

## ***Weather Tips for Outdoor Water Conservation Spring/Summer 2010***

**Typically over 50 percent of water consumed by households is used outdoors, which includes landscaping. Research suggests some of that extra use is simply wasted. Please use what you need, but don't waste it. Here are a few tips for conserving outdoor water use:**

- 1) Landscape with drought tolerant plants that require less water. You won't need to irrigate your landscaping as much, which will help save water and money.**
- 2) Install rain sensors on irrigation systems to avoid watering during the rain.**
- 3) When watering your lawn, make sure the water reaches the areas needed and not the sidewalk, driveway or road. And don't use a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways. Using a broom can save up to eighty gallons of water every time.**
- 4) Clean gutters and downspouts manually, without using a hose.**
- 5) Check all faucets, periodically for leaks and to make sure they are in good working order. Make sure faucets are closed when not in use**
- 6) Check hoses and for leaks and replace washers in connectors.**
- 7) Know where your master water shut-off valve is located and show everyone in the household.**
- 8) When washing your car, use a pistol grip water-saving garden nozzle or one that shuts off when you let go of it.... and you could reduce your water use from 200 gallons down to 20 gallons per car wash, depending on the time, size of hose, and water pressure.**