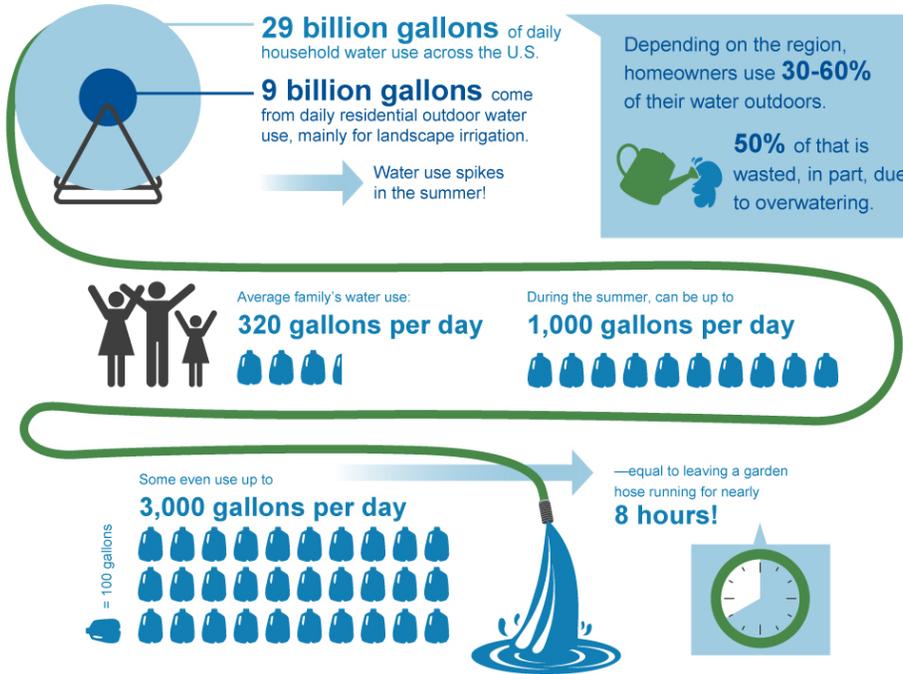


# SAVE WATER IN THE YARD THIS SUMMER

As temperatures rise in the summer, so does our outdoor water use, mostly on lawns and landscapes.



## Simple Things We Can All Do

- Step on it:** Step on the lawn: if the grass springs back, it doesn't need water.
- Leave it long:** Longer grass promotes a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced evaporation, and fewer weeds.
- Take a sprinkler break:** Grass isn't really meant to be bright green in the summer.

## Simple Things Irrigation System Owners Can Do

Homes with automatic irrigation systems can use about **50%** more water outdoors.

### Timing is everything:

Plan to water in the early morning or evening to beat daytime evaporation.



### Look for the label:

If your system uses a clock timer, consider upgrading to a WaterSense labeled controller that acts like a thermostat for your lawn, using local weather data to determine when and how much to water. They can reduce irrigation water use by 15%, saving nearly **8,800 gallons** of water per year.



### Go with a pro:

Contractors certified through a WaterSense labeled program can audit, install, or maintain home irrigation systems so no water is wasted.

### Tune up your system:

Inspect irrigation systems, and fix leaks and broken or clogged sprinkler heads.

Make sure you're watering the lawn, not the sidewalk or driveway!

Just 1 broken sprinkler head could waste up to **25,000 gallons** of water and **\$90+** over a 6-month irrigation season — the cost of about 300 daffodil bulbs.



WaterSense, a partnership program by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply. For more tips on reducing outdoor water use, visit [www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor).

