

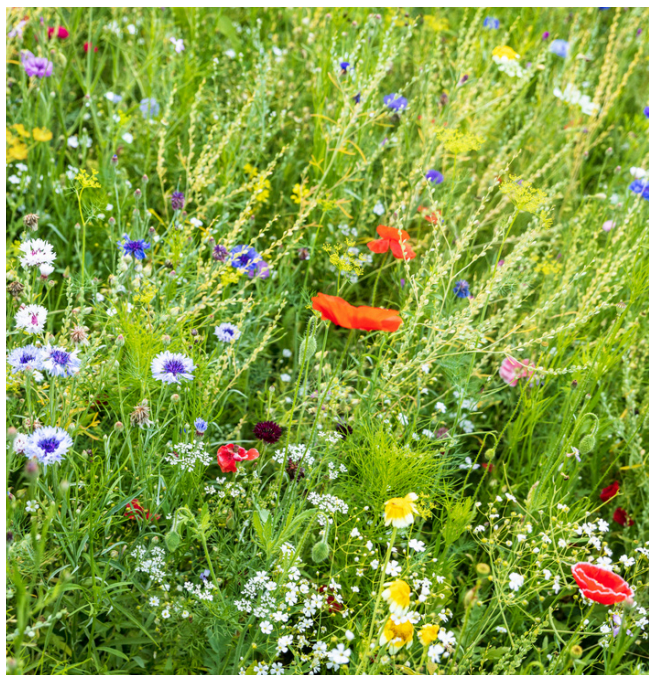
WATER CONSERVATION IN THE YARD

Kentucky Division of Water

We all love the look and feel of a lush green lawn. However, the water required for upkeep can be quite a lot. Use these water conservation tips for your yard and start doing your part for the planet!

LANDSCAPING

- Use porous material for walkways and patios to prevent wasteful runoff and keep water in your yard
- Group plants with the same watering needs together to avoid overwatering some while underwatering others
- Plant in the spring and fall, when the watering requirements are lower
- Avoid planting grass in areas that are hard to water, such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways
- Start a compost pile. Using compost in your garden or flower beds adds water-holding organic matter to your soil
- Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants helps them retain moisture, saving water, time and money
- Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low-water-use plant. Native plants are often the most water efficient and they also support native pollinators
- Water early in the day or later in the evening to prevent water loss from evaporation
- Collect water from your roof in a rain barrel to use for watering your landscaping
- Use drip irrigation rather than sprinklers



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LAWN CARE

- Leave lawn clippings on your grass, this cools the ground and holds in moisture
- If installing a lawn, select a lawn mix or blend that matches your climate and site conditions
- Water your summer lawns once every three days and your winter lawn once every five days
- Remember to weed your lawn or landscape and garden regularly. Weeds compete with other plants for nutrients, light, and water
- Let your lawn go dormant (brown) during the winter. Dormant grass only needs to be watered every three to four weeks, less if it rains
- Avoid overseeding your lawn with winter grass. Ryegrass needs water every few days, whereas Dormant Bermuda grass needs water monthly
- While fertilizers promote plant growth, they also increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed

