

# Outdoor Tips

**A typical home uses twice as much water outside as inside.**

Landscaping contributes to a large use of this water. Install low water use landscaping called Xeriscape™ for a lush, green, colorful yard.

**Do you wash your car at home?** There are waterless car wash products available that can make your car shine like a top! But if you wash with water - put an automatic shut off nozzle on your hose - and make sure it doesn't leak. If it does, it probably has a washer that needs replacing. Grab a bucket and towel, and see if you can keep water from going down your driveway! If your drive is sloped to drain to the side into your landscape - or if you can wash your car on a graveled area, you can water your plants while you wash the car!



**Sweep Sidewalks!** You can save 25-50 gallons of your drinking water by using a broom to clean sidewalks and driveways instead of a hose. Hoses can deliver 5 gallons or more of water a minute!

**Cover Up! (your pool that is!)** 65 gallons of water evaporates per square foot of open water in the Gilbert, Arizona area per year. If a pool is 400 square feet and is uncovered, it could be evaporating 26,000 gallons of water per year! A covered pool can save 24,500 gallons. So, cover it up!

Direct pool backwash onto your landscape for plants (especially lawns) when chlorine levels are low.

**Check for Leaks in Hose Bibs:** A leaking faucet can waste more than 70 gallons per day depending on the size of the leak.

**Mist Cooling Systems:** A typical system uses 2 gallons of water per minute to cool 1,000 square feet of patio area or 720 gallons per 6 hour use, or 21,600 gallons of water each month. Our hard water tends to clog the emitters resulting in constant maintenance. Water that lands on outdoor furniture leaves mineral deposits that can be difficult to remove.

*If you follow these tips and are still experiencing high water consumption, contact the Water Conservation office to schedule a free home water audit. 480-503-6098*

**Be sure to visit the Town of Gilbert Water Conservation web pages for landscaping tips, water audits, frequently asked questions and more.**

<http://www.ci.gilbert.az.us/water>