

# Adapt & Conserve this spring!



This year, think adaptation when planning your spring gardening! After a record dry year in 2023, we need to adapt to the changing climate and prepare for a waterwise summer 2024.

Preparing for a hot, dry summer now will help us save water and limit moving to stricter restrictions in the summertime.

**Tip 1**

Plant in wetter seasons like spring and fall, not during the watering restrictions

**Tip 2**

Choose plants that love dry heat like tomatoes, basil, beans, melon, eggplant.

**Tip 3**

Apply lime in spring and fall to adjust acidic soils to a neutral pH that protects grass from heat and lack of water.

**Tip 4**

Remove thick thatch in late spring or early fall to let water reach grass roots.

**Tip 5**

Overseed with micro clover. Micro clover lawns stay greener than traditional lawns through summer dry periods and are generally unaffected by wet winters.

**Tip 6**

Plant species native to our region. They are better suited to our climate, and can often thrive on rainfall alone.

**Tip 7**

Group plants with similar watering needs to avoid overwatering those that don't require much water.

**Tip 8**

Overseed with a low-maintenance lawn seed mixture. Plan to overseed at least a month before the start of watering restrictions to give new life to patchy lawns and add thickness to healthy ones.



For water conservation information visit [ourwatermatters.ca](http://ourwatermatters.ca)

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## 4 reasons to water with drip irrigation!

### 1. Improved Watering Efficiency

Drip irrigation is one of the most efficient ways to water your garden. By delivering water directly to the plant's root zone, you can ensure that each plant receives the right amount of water it needs. There is less water loss due to evaporation, runoff, and wind. Additionally, since plants are watered at ground level, there are fewer weeds due to the lack of water in the surrounding soil.



### 2. A Scalable Irrigation Solution

Drip systems are easy to install and can be adapted to any kind or size garden, from container plants to row crops, vineyards or greenhouses.



### 3. Water Conservation

Drip irrigation uses 30-50% less water than traditional surface irrigation. This results in significant water conservation, which is environmentally friendly and helps reduce your water bills. With its ability to save up to 70% on water usage compared with traditional methods, investing in a drip irrigation system can help reduce your overall gardening costs over time.



### 4. Increased Plant Health

Drip irrigation offers some health benefits to your garden plants by preventing mildew on leaves, minimizing diseases that can spread on wet leaves, and reducing the evaporation of water droplets. Watering plants more precisely and consistently allows for better absorption of minerals, which improves the quality of soil and helps promote growth.



For more water conservation ideas:  
[ourwatermatters.ca](http://ourwatermatters.ca)