



FLORIDA FRIENDLY is  
SPRINGS FRIENDLY, too!

Credit:  
CCTDC

North Florida springs are powerful flows of pure, fresh water discharging from the Floridan Aquifer. Here, in the Springs Heartland, some 300 springs release more than 2.8 billion gallons of water a day into the Ichetucknee, Santa Fe, Suwannee and Withlacoochee rivers.

Our springs are critical habitats for rare and endangered species. They provide many recreational opportunities. They are vital to our local economies. But our springs and rivers are threatened by pollution from nutrients and chemicals, and by ever-increasing groundwater withdrawals.

**CONSERVE WATER – Outdoors:** Follow the landscape irrigation measures. Don't waste water when washing vehicles. **Indoors:** Repair leaks, install water-efficient fixtures and appliances, and turn off the tap!

*Please do your part to help protect our springs.  
Thank you for being a good steward of our  
water resources!*

For more information about water-use measures, please contact the Suwannee River Water Management District at 800.226.1066 or visit [www.mysuwanneeriver.com](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com). To learn about Florida-Friendly Landscaping™, contact your county Extension office, your local Master Gardeners, or visit [www.floridayards.org](http://www.floridayards.org) or <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>.



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*Year-round water conservation measures are in effect within the Suwannee River Water Management District.*

As increasing demands are placed upon our water resources, we all must make conservation a way of life. Landscape irrigation accounts for the greatest percentage of home water use.

Mandatory lawn and landscape watering measures now are in effect year-round throughout the Suwannee River Water Management District (District). The measures apply to residential landscaping, public or commercial recreation areas, and public and commercial businesses that are not regulated by a District water-use permit.

The measures do not apply to small home vegetable gardens and there are exemptions for establishment of new lawns and landscapes. Regardless of the time of year, irrigation should not occur between 10 AM and 4 PM.

Knowing when to water your lawn depends on the time of year and whether you have an odd or even numbered address.

An even numbered address means an address ending in the numbers 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 or letters A-M. An odd numbered address means an address ending in the numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 or the letters N-Z.

Time of Year	Odd Numbered Addresses or No Address	Even Numbered Addresses	Nonresidential Properties
Daylight Saving Time	Wednesday & Saturday	Thursday & Sunday	Tuesday & Friday
Eastern Standard Time	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday

Other types of water-use measures are in place for agriculture and industry.

# Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Practices

Create and maintain attractive landscapes to enhance our communities and to protect Florida's natural environment. Landscaping the Florida-Friendly way saves water and reduces the amount of chemicals and pesticides entering our groundwater and springs.

## 1. RIGHT PLANT, RIGHT PLACE

Choose low-maintenance plants that will adapt to your site's soil, light and water conditions. Group plants with similar water and maintenance needs together. Use grass only where it's functional, such as child or pet play areas. Avoid using invasive exotics.



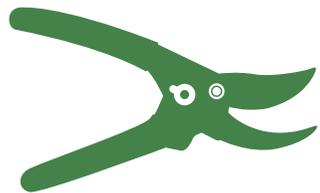
## 2. WATER EFFICIENTLY

Most Florida-friendly landscapes can thrive on rainfall alone. For lawns, ½" - ¾" of water per application is enough. Use rain gauges, soil moisture sensors, automatic shutoff devices on sprinklers, drip- or micro-irrigation systems, and rain barrels to irrigate more efficiently.



## 3. FERTILIZE APPROPRIATELY

Use slow-release fertilizer and don't over-water after applying. Don't fertilize when heavy rain is predicted. Use chelated iron or iron sulfate instead of fertilizer to "green up" a lawn without increasing growth. Avoid weed and feed products.



## 4. MULCH

Apply mulch to plant beds and around trees to a depth of about 3"-4", but keep it 2" away from tree trunks. Use mulch or groundcovers in place of grass in hard-to-mow areas. Let fallen leaves remain under trees to create self-mulching beds. Choose recycled mulch or alternatives like pine needles or bark.

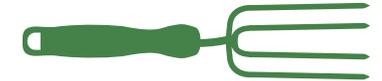
## 5. ATTRACT WILDLIFE

Plant vines, shrubs and trees to create wildlife habitat. Provide a water source such as a birdbath or small pond.



## 6. MANAGE YARD PESTS RESPONSIBLY

Choose the least toxic pesticides like horticultural soaps and oils. Spot treat pest-infested areas rather than spray entire lawn or yard.



## 7. RECYCLE YARD WASTE

Leave grass clippings on the lawn to recycle nitrogen back to the grass. Create and maintain a compost pile to form a natural fertilizer.



## 8. REDUCE STORMWATER RUNOFF

Sweep grass clippings, fertilizer and soil onto the lawn so they won't wash into storm drains. Use mulch, bricks, gravel or other porous materials for walkways, driveways, and patios.



## 9. PROTECT THE WATERFRONT

Establish a 20'-40' foot "no fertilizer- no pesticide" buffer zone along the shoreline. Plant a buffer zone of low-maintenance plants between your lawn and shoreline.

