

# Pop Quiz:

## Do You Know Where Your Water Comes From?

Most people in Texas don't.

If you are served by the North Texas Municipal Water District and you think your water comes from Lavon Lake, you're right. Congratulations! You're well on your way to raising your Water IQ.

*Every day* is a chance to save.

If everyone uses just 5 percent less water, we can make our limited supply last longer. The most effective way to save water is to reduce outdoor consumption.

North Texas Municipal Water District is implementing a public education and awareness campaign to help save water. It's called "Water IQ: Know your water." By raising everyone's Water IQ, North Texas will use less water.

### How to save water around your yard

- 1 Cut back outdoor watering to 1 inch every seven days. Experts advise watering your lawn deeply and infrequently to promote a strong root system.
- 2 Water before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. Mid-day watering results in fast evaporation and scorches lawns and plants.
- 3 For maintaining or planting the best turf grass for your landscape, consider the following: sun-to-shade requirements, depth and quality of soil and intent of use. Ask your local nursery to help you make the best selection. Try water-efficient turf varieties such as Bermuda and buffalo grass whenever possible.
- 4 When you mow your lawn, raise your lawnmower blade and cut grass to a height of 3 inches—this shades the soil, which reduces evaporation and allows roots to grow deeper.
- 5 Operate your in-ground sprinkler system manually and turn off the control timer. If you don't have a sprinkler system, use sprinklers that shoot large drops of water close to the ground. Water from misting sprinklers can evaporate before it hits the ground.
- 6 Check sprinkler systems frequently for directional aim and broken heads to prevent watering driveways, sidewalks and streets. Have a professional inspect your system annually for leaks.
- 7 Use drip irrigation, soaker hoses and root feeders instead of sprinklers to water trees, shrubs and beds more efficiently and reduce evaporation and wasteful runoff.
- 8 Use plenty of mulch in your beds—especially during a drought. Experts recommend 4 to 6 inches of mulch to prevent evaporation and to keep the soil moist.
- 9 Choose "water wise" plants like lantana, salvia and Mexican sage. Ask your local nursery or landscape professional for advice.

Save  
5%

Read your latest utility bill and note how many gallons you consumed. Simply multiply the number of gallons by .05—that's your 5 percent goal. For example, 8,000 gallons X .05 = 400 gallons. That's all you need to save for that month. You can easily save that much by fixing a leak, operating your irrigation system properly or implementing some of these other simple tips.

It may not seem like much, but every time you practice one of these easy tips you're helping to make Lavon Lake last. That's good for business, our economy and North Texas.

The North Texas Municipal Water District is the first in Texas to implement the "Water IQ: Know your water" campaign, the state's official water conservation public education campaign. The North Texas Municipal Water District is a wholesale water provider serving 1.6 million people in the North Texas area.



Raise your Water IQ.