

FRESNO WATER SAVER



A Publication of the City of Fresno Water Conservation Program

Friant-Kern Canal

Water Tips for Winter Months

During winter months, Mother Nature provides water for our lawns, trees and plants! Plan ahead for winter with these tips:

- Reset sprinkler timers to water less or turn off landscape systems completely when the weather gets cold.
- Aerate your lawn.
- Once freezing weather hits, cover plants and use mulch at the base of plants to protect roots.



More Ideas for Preparing Your Landscape & Property for Winter Freeze!

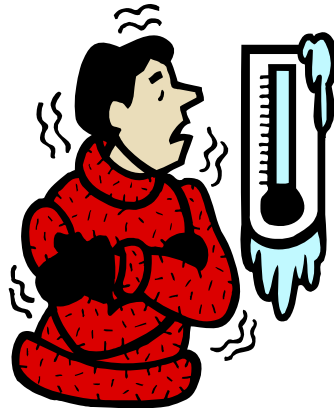
When the weather drops to freezing temperatures, water in exposed pipes expands. If the water expands too much, the pipe can burst. Here are some practical measures homeowners can take to safeguard against frozen water pipes and prevent costly plumbing damage.

Water Pipes and Hoses

- Remove hoses from outside faucets. Shut off water faucets and drain hoses. Leave hoses hanging or store someplace with a constant temperature. This will prolong the life of the hoses.
- Most in-ground sprinkler pipes will be okay, but if there are any exposed valves or pipes around your home (those most susceptible to freezing), tape them up with insulating materials including rags, newspapers or electric heat tape. Cover the insulation with plastic and tie with string or wire.
- Check your irrigation system and turn off or adjust all irrigation run times and spray patterns to avoid creating overspray where dangerous ice could form in the morning or evenings. Do your part to reduce the potential for accidents and liability caused by ice from your irrigation system.

Plants

- Once freezing weather hits, most plants become dormant and their water requirements are low.
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- Cover plant life with burlap, a blanket or polymer sleeves made for plants.
- Cover with mini-greenhouses or cloches (small domed plastic covers with ventilation).
- Use mulch at the base of plants to protect roots.



Some Things You Need to Know!

Are you planting a new lawn? Apply for a New Lawn Permit first! Call 621-5480

To report water main leaks or if you need the water shut off to repair leaks on your property, please contact the Water Division at 621-5300.

OUTDOOR WATERING SCHEDULE

Follow City of Fresno Winter Watering Schedule.

WINTER WATERING SCHEDULE	
DECEMBER 1 – MARCH 1	
ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES <small>(ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9)</small> SATURDAY ONLY	EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES <small>(ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8)</small> SUNDAY ONLY
NO WATERING BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 7 P.M.	

SUMMER WATERING SCHEDULE	
MARCH 2 – NOVEMBER 30	
ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES <small>(ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9)</small> TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY	EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES <small>(ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8)</small> WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SUNDAY
NO WATERING BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 7 P.M.	
NO WATERING ON MONDAYS	

LANDSCAPE - TRY GRASS CYCLING!

Close the Loop: Grass Cycle!

Did you know you can “grass cycle” grass clippings? Short clippings help soil retain moisture so lawns don’t dry out as quickly. Plus, landfill space is saved when you reduce the amount of grass clippings that are thrown away! Here are some helpful hints to successfully Grass Cycle:

- Proper mowing removes no more than one-third of the total length of the leaf blade.
- Three inches is a good mowing height for grasses.
- Avoid mowing when grass is wet.
- Dull mower blades tear and bruise the grass leaving frayed leaf tips.

To schedule a **FREE LANDSCAPE CONSULTATION**, call 621-5480

WATER-WISE PLANT IN THE SPOTLIGHT!



PLANT OF THE MONTH

LITTLE JOHN BOTTLEBRUSH
Callistemon viminalis 'Little John'
Family: Myrtaceae

GROWTH HABIT: A native of Australia, this small evergreen shrub reaches 2-3' tall and wide. It has 3" long bluish gray-green leaves, and the flowers are made up of deep-red stamens that appear throughout the year. Peak bloom is early summer through fall.

HARDINESS: It prefers full sun but will grow in light shade and is hardy to 20-25 degrees F.

LANDSCAPE USE: It attracts hummingbirds and bees. Use as a foundation plant or group among perennials and deciduous plants to give your garden an evergreen accent. It can be pruned after initial flowering to reduce size, but generally does not need much maintenance.

PROBLEMS: It doesn't want to be over watered, so if planting in heavy clay soil, be sure to plant it about an inch above grade.