



## Maintain your turf Watering your lawn.

### Water Suppliers

▶ City West Water  
Phone 131 691  
[www.citywestwater.com.au](http://www.citywestwater.com.au)

▶ Yarra Valley Water  
Phone 131 721  
[www.yvw.com.au](http://www.yvw.com.au)

▶ South East Water  
Phone 131 867  
[www.southeastwater.com.au](http://www.southeastwater.com.au)

▶ Western Water  
Phone (03) 5421 9555  
[www.westernwater.com.au](http://www.westernwater.com.au)

*As the weather warms up, with the onset of Summer. We all ask ourselves, 'How will I keep my lawn watered?' Whether your looking to install a new lawn or maintain your existing lawn. With careful selection of lawn varieties and some careful planning. Your lawn will survive even the toughest water restrictions.*

### Lawn Selection

When considering which lawn variety is right for your garden, it is important to consider, 'how will I be watering my lawn?' Warm seasons grasses like Kikuyu, Couch and Soft Leaf Buffalo are the best choice for a water wise garden, as they have lower water requirements than cool seasons grasses like Tall Fescue, Kentucky Bluegrass and Ryegrass. These cool seasons grasses are green all year round which is their main appeal but if choosing these varieties it is best to consider a water tank or diverting your grey water (See below).

### How much water do I need?

#### New Lawns

It is essential that instant turf be laid on moist soil. It is important that the turf be watered in soon after laying to prevent the turf from drying out. The watering should wet the sod and the top 30-50 mm of soil. The turf needs to be kept moist over the first few days.

Root initiation and development – typically the first week	Soil root system establishment – typically the second week	Third and fourth week	NOTE:
The turf may require watering three times per day for the first week, depending on the temperature, relative humidity and wind.	Water every second day, every day if hot and dry, to keep turf moist.	Less frequent watering, reduce frequency to twice a week by the fourth week, unless hot and dry days in between.	Over-watering can be a problem. To encourage knitting of the turf sod to the soil, a moist environment is required, not a saturated one.

### Helpful tip

▶ Don't forget your lawn! A windy day can dry out your lawn as much as a hot day.



### Established turf

Deep and infrequent watering of your established lawn is recommended. One soaking application of 25mm of water per week should maintain your lawn in a healthy condition in summer (subject to soil profile).

### Using Grey water

Using grey water for your lawn is a great alternative to using drinking water. Grey water refers to all non-toilet household waste water. Typically water from your bath and shower is best to use on your lawn. To properly care for your lawn it is important to understand what grey water is and how to safely collect it prior to starting (for example grey water should be used within 24hours of collection). Grey water diversion can be as simple as running a hose from your shower outlet and gravity irrigating your lawn or as elaborate as getting a plumber to install a diversion system. Grey water systems are available from all good irrigation suppliers. Grey water is an important resource and is worth considering. For more information on collecting your grey water contact your water supplier.

### Installing a tank.

Installing a rainwater tank is another way of saving water for use on your lawn. To find the tank that's right for your lawn area, visit your nearest Irrigation store. Typically a 2500 litre tank is required to supply an average garden with enough water to keep a lawn well watered. A rebate is also available when you install a tank, for information on the state government rebate scheme visit [www.ourwater.vic.gov.au](http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au)

