



Chandler • Arizona



## WaterSaver Newsletter

Like us on Facebook



January 2014

### Save Up to 80% on a Smart Irrigation Controller!

- What if your irrigation timer could save you money?
- What if your irrigation timer would shut off when it rains?
- What if your irrigation timer would automatically water more when it's hot?



### It Can....if you have a 'Smart Controller'

Make plans to register for the Salt River Project Water Expo on Saturday, March 8, visit [www.srpnet.com](http://www.srpnet.com) keyword: expo. SRP customers will be eligible to purchase a "smart" irrigation controller for \$50, plus tax, and save as much as \$240 on the retail price of a \*Rain Bird ESP-SMTe. The WaterSense-labeled controller uses real time and historic weather data to manage outdoor watering schedules more effectively and can deliver water savings of up to 25 percent. Chandler water customers are eligible for an additional rebate.

Not sure if a Smart Controller is right for you? Chandler's FREE Smart Irrigation Controller class will explain the details and show you additional products that tailor irrigation to your site. Class will be held on Thursday, February 13 from 6:00 - 8:45 pm at Chandler City Hall. Details are available at [www.chandleraz.gov/water](http://www.chandleraz.gov/water).

*\*The Rain Bird ESP-SMT comes with a personal weather station. The controller uses over eight years of historical weather data by zip code.*

If you have questions about your landscape, contact the Water Conservation Office at [conserve@chandleraz.gov](mailto:conserve@chandleraz.gov). Visit the Water Conservation website for more [landscape tips](#).

### In This Issue

[Save up to 80%](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Monthly Watering Advice](#)

[Ask a Garden Goddess](#)

[Plant of the Month](#)

[Water Wise Tips](#)

### Upcoming Events

January - Thursdays  
[Chandler Farmers Market](#)

January 18

[U of A Citrus Clinic](#)

January 4 - April 5

[Family Bird Walks](#)

January 11

[Hummingbird Habitat](#)

February 11

[Smartscape Training](#)

February 13

[Smart Irrigation](#)

[Controllers](#)

See complete schedule at  
[www.chandleraz.gov/water](http://www.chandleraz.gov/water)



### Monthly Watering Advice

January

### Ask A Garden Goddess



I have a clover like weed taking over my Bermuda lawn. How can I get rid of it?

What a great way to start the new year with clear skies and mild temperatures. No rain is predicted for the first two weeks so watch your landscape for dryness to determine if you need to adjust your controller. Recommendations below are for plants that are established in the landscape (in the ground about 2 years).

Lawn watering:

- Summer grass (Bermuda) - once every 30 days
- Overseded cool season grass (rye) - once every 14 days

If trees and shrubs are on the same valve:

- Desert Adapted - once every 35 days
- High Water Use - once every 18 days

Tree watering:

- Desert Adapted - once every 45 days
- High Water Use - once every 21 days

Shrub watering:

- Desert Adapted - once every 30 days
- High Water Use - once every 14 days

Groundcover and vine watering:

- Desert Adapted - once every 28 days
- High Water Use - once every 14 days

Cacti and succulent watering - if needed

Annuals watering - once every 10 days

Wildflower watering - once every 15 days

\*\*Reduce your landscape watering 30 to 50 percent by adjusting your irrigation each season.\*\* "[Landscape Watering by the Numbers: A Guide for the Arizona Desert](#)" will help you determine how much water to apply and how long to run your system. request a free copy at [www.chandlerzaz.gov/water](http://www.chandlerzaz.gov/water) or visit the interactive web site at [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com) .

Bonus tip: If you need to clear out some of the weeds in your landscape, this is a great time to hand pull them. It's a lot easier to get attached roots pulled out when the soil is moist. Keep in mind that weeds compete with landscape plants for water.

There are several clover like weeds that grow in Bermuda lawns. Common varieties include white clover, bur clover, wood sorrel, black medic, etc. These broadleaf weeds can be controlled with products that will not kill the grass. Spray broadleaf weeds with products containing 2,4-D or Dicamba (Lawn Weed Killer, Trimec, Weed-B-Gone Lawn Weed Killer, Wipe-Out Broadleaf Weed Killer, and several others).

Hand pulling or cultivation is also an option. Either irrigate the lawn or wait until right after a rain to pull them when the ground is wet. Here's a link to more information on [weed control](#) from UC Davis.

Email your question to [GardenGoddess@chandlerzaz.gov](mailto:GardenGoddess@chandlerzaz.gov)



## Water Wise Tips



Grandpa always said "Good judgement comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgement."

Sometimes it's hard to judge when your lawn needs water or fertilizer. Here's a handy summary to help you in January.

### Lawns overseeded with winter rye grass:

**Fertilizing:** Apply 1/2 lb. -Nitrogen- per 1000 sq. ft. Phosphorous is beneficial at this time.

**Watering:** Water every 7-14 days, depending on the weather, to a soil depth of 6-10 inches.

**Mowing:** Recommend regular mowing at 1 1/2 inches. DO NOT mow or walk on frosted turf.

### Non-overseeded lawns (dormant):

**Fertilizing:** None

**Watering:** As grass is dormant, water to a soil depth of 6-10 inches once a month, or less often if it rains.

**Mowing:** None, dormant

Know how to manually turn off your automatic watering system in the event of rain, a malfunction or leak. Choose the 'off' setting on your controller or turn the shut off valve on the main line entering your home, usually located close to the outside faucet near the front of the house.



Need help? Contact the Water Conservation office at 480-782-3580 or email [conserve@chandleraz.gov](mailto:conserve@chandleraz.gov)

## Plant of the Month

### [Texas Mountain Laurel](#) (*Sophora secundiflora*)

This small, thornless, evergreen tree is native to Texas, New Mexico and Mexico. Its clean habit and mature size of 15 feet tall and wide make it a perfect choice for patios or entryways. It can be grown as a single or multi-trunked tree depending on your taste.



Dark green glossy leaves lend a lush look to desert gardens. From February to March, Texas Mountain Laurel blooms with stunning clusters of purple flowers that smell just like grape soda pop.

Plant in full sun to partial shade in well drained soil. Texas Mountain Laurel is cold hardy to 10 degrees. Deep, infrequent irrigation is best with a little extra water during the summer. Sometimes bothered by a small caterpillar, spraying leaves with Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) will control this pest.

Like apple seeds, lantana berries and many others, seeds from this plant are poisonous to eat. If there is concern, simply clip off the pods before they mature.



For more landscape choices and design ideas to help you create a vibrant, attractive, colorful low water use landscape try

[Water Wise Landscaping in Chandler.](#)

## Water Conservation E-News

This monthly newsletter will help you create stunning landscapes that use less water. Each issue is packed with personalized watering advice, notices about upcoming events, timely tips to maintain a healthy landscape, plus ways to reduce your water bill. Read past issues here - [WaterSaver newsletter](#).

[Sign-Up Now](#)

Sincerely,  
Water Conservation Staff

[Like us on Facebook](#)

**Chandler City Council**  
Jay Tibshraeny, Mayor  
Jack Sellers, Vice Mayor

**Council Members**  
Trinity Donovan  
Nora Ellen  
Kevin Hartke  
Rick Heumann  
Jeff Weninger



The WaterSaver newsletter is published by Chandler's Water Conservation office and is just one more way we're providing Chandler utility customers with inspiring ideas at a reduced cost.

You have received this newsletter because you requested a subscription, asked to receive information from us, or have been identified by Water Conservation as someone who could benefit from the information.

Questions or comments? We want to hear from you! Contact us at [conserve@chandleraz.gov](mailto:conserve@chandleraz.gov)



SafeUnsubscribe™

[Forward email](#)

This email was sent by [conserve@chandleraz.gov](mailto:conserve@chandleraz.gov).

City of Chandler | PO Box 4008, MS 404 | 975 E Armstrong Way | Chandler | AZ | 85286

Trusted Email from  
**Constant Contact**

Try it FREE today.