



What Do You Know About H2O?

There's so much to know about our H2O! Where does it come from and how does it get into our homes? How is it cleaned before we drink it? Which laws protect it? What other benefits does it offer besides public health and fire protection?

Water plays a critical role in our daily lives and the quality of life we enjoy. Take the challenge to learn more by getting to know our H2O!

1. What is water made of?
2. How much does one gallon of water weigh?
3. What uses the most water in a household?
4. What is the scientific term for rain, sleet or snow?
5. How much of the human body is made of water?
6. What does not biodegrade in water?
7. What is an underground formation of saturated soil or rock that is capable of storing and transmitting water?
8. What are the three forms of water found naturally on Earth?
9. What is the name of water-saving methods to reduce the amount of water needed?
10. What is a geographical area called where all the water drains naturally to one place?

Click here for the [answers](#). Score yourself and see if you're a Water Genius!

To learn more ways to save visit

<http://www.mwdh2o.com/mwdh2o/pages/education/h2o/h2o.html>

or

http://www.drinktap.org/kids.aspx#pfvideo_player_4438

If you have questions about your home or landscape water use, contact the Water Conservation Office at conserve@chandleraz.gov, call 480-782-3580 or visit www.chandleraz.gov/water.



Monthly Watering Advice

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Upcoming Events

October 10, 11, 12

[DBG Plant Sale](#)

October 11 - 26

[Boyce Thompson Plant Sale](#)

October 11

[Backyard Composting](#)

October 18

[Backyard Composting](#)

October 14

[Chandler 'Smart' Home - Tracking Down Sneaky Leaks](#)

October 21

[Pruning & Maintaining Your Landscape](#)

October 25

[Master Gardener Fall Festival & Plant Sale](#)

October 25

[Chandler Day of Play](#)

See complete schedule at

www.chandleraz.gov/water

October

After record-breaking rainfall in September, Fall is finally here and it's a great time to replace lost plants or install a new landscape. Soils are still warm, which encourages root establishment, but water needs are not as demanding, allowing for greater success. In fact, water needs for plants are about half as much as they were in June.

Recommendations below are for plants that are established in the landscape (in the ground about 2 years).

Lawn watering:

Summer grass (Bermuda) - once every 6 days
Overseeded cool season grass (rye) - 4 times per day for first 7-10 days to germinate, then once every 3 days

If trees and shrubs are on the same valve:

Desert Adapted - once every 21 days
High Water Use - once every 10 days

Tree watering:

Desert Adapted - once every 24 days
High Water Use - once every 12 days

Shrub watering:

Desert Adapted - once every 18 days
High Water Use - once every 9 days

Groundcover and vine watering:

Desert Adapted - once every 18 days
High Water Use - once every 8 days

Cacti and succulent watering - once every 28 days

Annuals watering - once every 4-5 days

Wildflower watering - once every 1-2 days to germinate, then once every 3-5 days

Bonus tip: New plantings need more frequent watering. After planting, water every 3-4 days weeks 1 & 2, every 6-7 days weeks 3 & 4, every 7-10 days weeks 5 & 6, and then gradually extend time between irrigations until plants are established.

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 or visit the interactive web site at www.wateruseitwisely.com.

Note: These recommendations are general guidelines only and may need to be modified for your specific site conditions.

Ask A Garden Goddess



I want to create a tropical landscape. Is that possible in the desert?

You are in luck! With a little planning you can have a tropical looking yard that will survive here in the desert.

The key is choosing the right plants. There are dozens of desert-adapted varieties that will give you that tropical look while still being low water use.

Trees like Chitalpa, Jacaranda or Sissoo and shrubs such as Mexican honeysuckle, Pineapple guava, or Texas olive will help you achieve your goal.

Here is a list to help you get started. [Create a tropical yard in the desert.](#)

Email your question to GardenGoddess@chandlerzaz.gov



Water Wise Tips



Grandpa always said "A mind is like a parachute. It doesn't work if it isn't open."

An abundance of new research supports the many benefits of trees and greenspace to public health. This includes [lowering the key stress hormone cortisol](#), [reducing the risk of type 2 diabetes](#), [cleaning the air and saving lives](#), and all the while [making us all a lot happier](#).

October is the best month to plant trees. Soils are still warm which promotes root growth but the daytime temperatures are cooling, making it less stressful for trees to become established. Even in winter trees are producing roots that will help them absorb water and nutrients so they are prepared for next summer.

Follow the [planting standards](#) developed by the University of Arizona and then water your new trees according to

Plant of the Month

[Maximilian Sunflower](#) (*Helianthus maximiliani*)

Not your typical sunflower, Maximilian Sunflower produces multiple 6 - 8 foot stalks that tower above surrounding plants.

Numerous large bright yellow flowers up to three inches across grow in a spiral around the stems.

Butterflies enjoy the nectar from the masses of blooms from July through October and songbirds, doves, quail, and other wildlife relish the seeds produced in the fall.

Most sunflowers are annuals, which means that they live for only one year, but [Maximilian sunflowers](#) are perennials and



instructions on pages 9 and 14 of [Landscape Watering by the Numbers](#).



Make plans to attend the [Pruning & Landscape Maintenance](#) workshop on October 21. Selection and planting will be covered.

If you have any questions about your landscape, contact the Chandler Water Conservation office at 480-782-3800 or email

conserve@chandleraz.gov.

come back for many years from their roots. A single plant will slowly form a growing circular colony over a number of years.

Sunflowers are heliotropes (sun lovers) and the flower heads turn to follow the sun as it moves across the sky.

Plant Maximilian Sunflower in full sun and use as an accent plant, a natural hedge or tall screen. Cut back the previous years' growth in late winter.



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

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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

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