

## **VOLUNTARY CUSTOMER ACTIONS**

**1.) Stop leaks.** Check all water-using appliances, equipment, and other devices for leaks. Running toilets, steady faucet drips, home water treatment units, and outdoor sprinkler systems are common sources of leaks.

## 2.) Reduce Water Use Outdoors

- Reduce vehicle washing and use facilities that recycle water.
- Exterior paved surfaces should be swept rather than washed, unless necessary for such reasons as public health or safety.
- Minimize the need to refill pools, hot tubs, ponds, and other water feature.
- Keep pools covered when not in use so you will not lose water to evaporation.
- Reduce water use in the landscape and irrigation system
  - Fix leaks in the irrigation system promptly.
  - Turn off sprinkler zones that are not needed.
  - Do not water every day. Water every other day or every two days.
  - Water by hand instead of using your irrigation system if possible.
  - Attach a shut off nozzle on your hose when hand watering plants.
  - It is best to water between the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. Do not water in the middle of the day.
  - Plug up drip emitters that are not watering plants.
  - Turn down adjustable micro sprays.
  - Dry spots add another emitter or fix sprinkler. Do not run the entire system longer.
  - Adjust sprinklers keep water where it is supposed to be, no hardscape watering.
  - Hold off on new plantings. New plantings require more water to become established.
  - Amend soil and add mulch/compost to hold in moisture and reduce evaporation.
  - Catch excess water in a bucket and use on the landscape.

## 3.) Reduce Water Indoors

- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Avoid letting the water run when rinsing vegetables, cleaning dishes or defrosting food.
- Only wash full loads of laundry or dishes.
- Avoid using the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Take shorter showers.

## For more information on conservation programs, rebates, and other resources, please visit our website at <u>medfordwater.org</u> or call (541) 774-2435 or (541) 774-2436.