

WATER IS A PRECIOUS RESOURCE

SAVE OUR WATER SAVE OUR TREES

When temperatures rise and the rainy season is over, it's time to revisit your watering methods.

Summer heat can encourage the overuse of sprinklers on trees and plants, causing “dry weather runoff”. This is when overhead water runs off into the pavement, taking pollutants and trash into storm drains, and ultimately the ocean.

Billions of gallons of water are lost and polluted because of lack of conservation. Water conservation starts at home. See below on how to conserve water while caring for trees!



Water Conservation

These climate-ready solutions will keep runoff out of the street, while keeping plants and trees watered all summer long!



1

Image Credit: Threefold Farm

Water trees on a drip irrigation system, which consists of tubing with small openings that allow water to slowly soak into the ground.



2

Image Credit: Canopy

Add mulch, berms, and swales to your trees so that water from roofs, driveways and patios can be captured and reabsorbed into the ground.



3

Image Credit: Home Water Works

Routinely check your irrigation system is operating correctly to conserve and repair unwanted leaks



4

Image Credit: UC Davis

Select drought tolerant species that can withstand harsh environmental conditions, making the urban forest more resilient and healthy.

Urban forests improve water quality

The urban forest improves water quality, reduces erosion and runoff, and reduces cost of water treatment.

Cool and clean

1

Shade from trees reduces the soil temperature, which then improves water retention. Trees are also able to cool ambient temperature through a natural process called evapotranspiration.

When rain water is absorbed into the soil, it is naturally filtered and cleaned, reducing the need for chemical water treatment.

Ground permeability and pollution

2

Tree canopies and tree roots act as water catchment by reducing surface flow. This way, water slows down during impact, and has more time to be absorbed into the soil.

Tree roots can absorb and break down contaminants from sub-surface water.

Keep the water cycle up

3

Trees play a vital part in the water cycle. Water from soils is absorbed through trees and evaporates from leaves, travels to the atmosphere and comes down as rain.

Soil erosion

4

Trees, more than any other vegetation, can limit soil erosion by helping control stormwater flow. Tree roots help stabilize stream banks, and prevent sediment movement downstream.