

A WATER WISE TIP:

With the rain we receive in the spring, as well as cool weather, it has been unnecessary to water lawns thus far. Irrigation performed before this date has done nothing other than wasting water. Please refrain from watering until there are visible signs of wilt. Another temptation is to fertilize the lawns. If you have fertilized on a regular basis in the past, you can delay fertilization unless you have recently seeded or your lawn is very thin. Most fertilizers contain insoluble sources of nitrogen, which are broken down by microorganisms in the soils. These microorganisms are temperature dependent. As temperatures warm, the organisms become more active and nitrogen reservoirs in the soil are released. You will be amazed at how green the grass will become as the temperatures reach 70° F on a regular basis.

Maintain high mowing heights to build up root systems and carbohydrate levels in turf. This will also discourage weed invasion. Between 2½ and 3 inches is recommended in the spring, but don't remove more than a third of the grass blade at each mowing.