



Socorro Soil and Water Conservation District

Socorro's Soil & Water Conservation Leaders Since 1944

February 2016 Newsletter

Conserving Water in the Garden

- Water infrequently, two—three times a week is sufficient. This will encourage deep rooting and greater tolerance to dry spells.
- Water early in the day or after the sun starts to set, or even during the night. 7 pm—7 am will reduce evaporation loss.
- Spring is a good time to aerate your lawn. This will allow for maximum water penetration.
- Mulch the soil surface to cut down on water loss due to evaporation. A two inch mulch base is recommended. Trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, vegetable gardens and container gardens will all benefit from mulch. Mulch also aids in weed reduction. Shredded leaves, straw, compost, pine needles, shredded bark, bark chips, grass clippings and manure can all be used as mulch material.
- Pick drought tolerant, native desert southwest plants for landscaping. They are already adapted to this habitat.
- Install a drip irrigation system. These are easy to install and can be modified as your plants grow and expanded as you add more landscaping. The Socorro SWCD has a cost share program for this to assist in the cost of the parts of the system.
- Install rain barrels to catch rain runoff from your roof. This can be plumbed into your drip system to water your landscaping. The Socorro SWCD also has a cost share program to assist in the cost of the barrel system. We can also assist you with the connection to your drip system.
- If you have a drip system, check all of the connections and the drippers when you first turn it on for the season. Repair any leaks and replace any broken or clogged drippers.
- Add an automatic rain sensor to your electric irrigation timer. It's inexpensive and saves water, and we can help you install it.
- Let your lawn grow longer. Longer blades of grass can stretch the time between needed watering. If you have a sprinkler system on your lawn, check your sprinkler heads when you first turn on for the season and replace any damaged or non-functioning heads.



CALENDAR

- March 8*** ***Socorro SWCD Board meeting at 5:30 PM.***
- March 13*** ***Time change-Spring forward, one hour.***
- April 1*** ***Last day to submit applications for Cost Share Program***
- June 14*** ***Last Cost Share Program Payments made to Landowners***
- June 30*** ***End of Fiscal Year***
- July 1*** ***Start accepting new Fiscal Year Cost Share Program Applications from landowners***

Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District

103 Francisco de Avondo, Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 838-0078 Phone
(575) 418-5979 Cell

socorroswcd@qwestoffice.net
www.socorroswcd.com