



Homeowner Water Guide

Fall Checklist

Protecting Calgary's precious water resources is a shared responsibility among The City of Calgary, businesses and Calgarians. There are many actions you can take to ensure that your home is safe and as water efficient as possible. This simple fall checklist is a great place to start. Check out the Homeowner Water Guide series for more details on how to get the job done.

Fall Checklist

- ☐ Check the Watering 101 Guide to find out when to stop watering plants, shrubs and trees.
- ☐ Consult the YardSmart plant list to make any seasonal additions to your garden like bulbs.
- ☐ Clean debris and dead annuals from plant beds, and cut back perennials.
- ☐ Place mulch around perennial plants and trees to protect them from frost.
- ☐ Prune your trees and shrubs.
- ☐ Let your grass grow into dormancy – stop watering and stop cutting.
- ☐ Turn off the outdoor water supply to avoid winter leaks.
- ☐ Properly winterize and turn off your irrigation system to avoid leaks.
- ☐ Clean debris out of your gutters.
- ☐ Clean and repair downspouts, and direct stormwater away from your house, ideally towards your garden.
- ☐ Clean and properly winterize your rain barrel.

Indoor:

- ☐ Still have an old, high-flow toilet? Consider replacing it with a low-flow WaterSense approved model to save money and water.
- ☐ Check your sump pump for leaks or damage.
- ☐ Clean out the backflow valve located in your basement.
- ☐ Use your water meter to check for leaks inside your home every six months as part of regular home maintenance.
- ☐ Check your toilets, taps, humidifier, hot water heater, water softener and other water using devices for leaks.
- ☐ Service your hot water heater, water softener and humidifier.

▶ **Helpful Tip:** Going on an extended holiday? Check your home insurance policy before deciding to turn your water service off, and confirm how often someone needs to check on your home while you're away.