

# Free Resources for Glendale Teachers



**Students participating in a hands-on activity learn about local water resources**

It's never too early to become water wise. That's why the city of Glendale developed a new youth education program, called Water Watchers. The new program is a hands-on, multi-disciplinary, and fun approach that offers a variety of activities, presentations, and free teacher resources. The activities are correlated to the **Arizona Academic Standards** and are designed to encourage peer interaction, critical thinking, and community involvement.

During the initial pilot program, participating teachers gave the program high marks for addressing the state's education standards and for engaging the students. One fourth grade teacher wrote, "I couldn't believe how organized everything was. There wasn't a single activity that my students didn't enjoy. Awesome program!"

Water Watchers raised students' awareness of their own daily water use habits. Students reported a 16% reduction in water wasting behaviors when comparing their water habits before and after their participation in the Water Watchers program. The program also received enthusiastic support from parents. More than 68% of the parents assisted their children with a take-home water efficiency audit. Participating parents received water conserving devices for their homes.

It's not too late to sign up for this school year. Fourth, fifth and sixth grade teachers that teach in Glendale can sign up for the Water Watchers program by contacting the Glendale Water Conservation Office at (623) 930-3535 or [jtoms@glendaleaz.com](mailto:jtoms@glendaleaz.com).

## Water Conservation Interns Wanted!

The Glendale Water Conservation Office is offering a 12-week internship position to assist with the Water Watchers program. Intern duties include helping with classroom presentations, researching and developing education materials, and assembling water education toolkits. To learn more about the internship opportunity, please contact the Glendale Water Conservation Office at (623) 930-3535 or download an application on the City of Glendale Website at [www.glendaleaz.com/jobs](http://www.glendaleaz.com/jobs).

## Garden Festival May 3rd

There are more than just flowers blooming at the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden this spring. Come celebrate everything green at the grand opening of the new outdoor classroom. Landscape classes for adults and garden activities for children will be offered throughout the morning on May 3rd. Local gardening clubs and organizations will have displays and will be on hand to answer questions.

The City of Glendale Water Conservation Office will host the Garden Festival at the Glendale Public Library / Xeriscape Demonstration Garden (5959 W. Brown Street) The event will include engaging, garden-related activities and free garden plants - fun for the entire family: Check for more details at [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com) after March 15th.

The new "living classroom" is made possible by the City of Glendale Public Arts program and is designed by CoLAB, the award-winning, architectural studio of Mathew and Maria Salinger.



"One of the most delightful things about a garden is the anticipation it provides."  
~W.E. Johns ~

## How to legally drain or backwash your pool

It is illegal to discharge your pool or spa water into the streets. Learn about the legal way to manage pool water by obtaining the flyer, How to Legally Drain and Backwash Your Pool. The flyer explains what to do with the pool water and provides tips for conserving pool water. To obtain the flyer, call (623) 930-3535 or click on "publications" at [www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation).

## Did you know?

The water rates for the city of Glendale are developed using a conservation-based tiered rate. This means that the higher water users get charged more per 1,000 gallons used than the average or below average users are charged. The more you use the higher rate you get charged.

## Friends of the Garden Volunteers

The Friends of the Garden (F.O.G.) volunteers assist the Water Conservation Office in maintaining the award-winning Xeriscape Demonstration Garden at the Main Library. F.O.G. volunteers assist in the care and upkeep of the garden, participate in monthly group workdays, help at special events, assist in the Water Conservation Office and act as garden ambassadors.



**Friends of the Garden volunteers take pride in their efforts at the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden.**

Join Us! If you're interested in becoming a Friend of the Garden volunteer, please call the Water Conservation Office at (623) 930-3535. No experience is needed and training is provided. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older.

## Need Help with Your Landscape?

### Free Information

Several colorful, how-to brochures are available to help you design and maintain an attractive and inviting low-water-use landscape. Look for the following free brochures:

**Xeriscape: Landscaping with Style** – A step-by-step guide for planning your landscape.

**Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert** - A guide to more than 200 recommended low-water-use plants.

**Landscape Watering by the Numbers** – A booklet with instructions on how much and how often to water your plants.

All three brochures are available at the Glendale Libraries or order them on-line at [www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation) and click on "free brochures."

### Free Consultations

The Water Conservation Office provides free on-site consultations to Glendale residents. We look at your landscape from a conservation perspective and provide information on plants and tips on how to maximize water and energy conservation for your specific landscape. Call (623) 930-3760 to arrange an appointment.



# Landscape Rebate Up to \$750

Over 4,200 Glendale residents have made the switch. You can too! Reduce your outdoor water use by 30 percent or more by installing xeriscape, a low-water-use landscape. New homeowners who install a low-water-use landscape can receive a \$200 rebate from the city of Glendale Water Conservation Rebate Program. Homeowners with existing landscapes can receive up to \$750 for replacing grass with low-water-use landscape.

## Turf Conversion Chart

Rebate Amount	Amount of Grass Removed
\$150	500 - 1500 sq.ft.
\$300	1500 - 2500 sq.ft.
\$450	2500 - 3500 sq.ft.
\$600	3500 - 4500 sq.ft.
\$750	4500 +

Not sure where to start? Here are three simple ways to get started:

**Step #1 – Call our office (623) 930-3760 for a free rebate information packet.** The packet includes information on how to qualify and how-to booklets to help you plan your turf to xeriscape conversion.

**Step #2 – Arrange for a free landscape consultation at your property.** Our staff is trained to look at your landscape from a conservation perspective and provide you with information on recommended low-water-use plants and tips on how to maximize water and energy conservation for your specific landscape.

**Step #3 - Take a free class.** The Water Conservation Office offers free landscape classes year-round. Go to [www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation).

## HOAs are looking good and saving money

Landscape maintenance is often a large expense for a homeowners association. It can be a challenge to maintain an attractive landscape that adds value to your community while keeping costs within budget. The Glendale Water Conservation staff can help you manage your landscape costs by assisting in the development of a month-by-month water budget specific to your landscape.

**HOAs and businesses can receive up to \$3,000 for removing unwanted grass.** The amount of the rebate is dependent on how much grass is converted. For information on how to qualify go to [www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation) or call (623) 930-3596.



## Stormwater: Where does it go?

The City of Glendale is considered a Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). This means that the storm drain system is separate from the sanitary sewer system. Storm water that does not soak into the ground or evaporate runs down the storm drains and into Skunk Creek, New River or the Agua Fria River. Unlike water and wastes conveyed in the sanitary sewers, storm water is untreated before being discharged into these waterways.



## Only Rain in the Storm Drain

Never dump anything on the ground that could end up in the street gutters or in the storm drains. Pesticides, pet wastes, leaking oil from a vehicle could all end up in our washes and waterways if proper care is not taken.

For helpful tips for minimizing your impact to the storm water drains go to [www.glendaleaz.com/environmentalresources/stormwater.cfm](http://www.glendaleaz.com/environmentalresources/stormwater.cfm).

## Comparing Your Water Use

The average residential water use in Glendale is approximately 126 gallons per person per day. This is a rough estimate and can vary greatly based on the following factors:

- Number of people living in or visiting the home
- Size and type of landscaping and how it is watered
- Presence of a swimming pool
- Presence of water efficient appliances and plumbing fixtures
- Presence of indoor or outdoor leaks
- Personal habits

### Example: Calculating Your Usage Per Person Per Day

11,000	÷	3	÷	30	=	122
<i>Gallons used per month</i>		<i>People in household</i>		<i>Days per month</i>		<i>Gallons per person per day</i>

## Where does all that water go?

Are you staring at your water bill in disbelief wondering “How could I use that much water?” So where did all that water go?

- A home lawn sprinkler uses about 10 gallons per minute. A broken sprinkler head can lose up to 12 gallons per minute.
- A reverse osmosis water treatment system can use up to 5 gallons for every gallon of filtered water it produces.
- A ½ inch diameter garden hose delivers 5 to 8 gallons of water per minute; over 300 gallons per hour.
- A slow dripping leaky outdoor valve or indoor water fixture can waste 350 gallons per month.
- An average size swimming pool (400 sq. ft. surface area) uses about 16,000 gallons to fill and loses about 22,000 gallon each year due to evaporation and backwashing. Evaporation loss in the summer can be as high as 2,500 gallons each month.



For more information you can request a free home water audit and leak detection kit, The Complete Guide to Home Water Management, by calling (623) 930-3535 or by completing an on-line order form at [www.glendaleaz.com/WaterConservation/brochures.cfm](http://www.glendaleaz.com/WaterConservation/brochures.cfm).

## Rescue Your Lawn Water

When you water your lawn does a portion of the water escape into the street gutters? Are you not sure what to do to fix the problem? You can request a free on-site consultation by calling 623 930-3760.

As part of the free consultation, qualified and experienced water conservation staff will suggest water efficient practices for your specific landscape. Your consultation would include:

- Tips on how to adjust your timer with recommendations on how much and how often to water
- Tips on how to deal with hard-to-water areas
- Irrigation system recommendations and tips on how to adjust the grass spray heads
- Information on low-water-use plants
- Free how-to brochures and handouts

Look for tips on how to deal with difficult lawn watering problems at [www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/waterconservation)

## CONTACT US

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