

WATER WISE LANDSCAPING



PERFECT GARDENING TIPS

AVOID BROWN SPOTS



- Water brown spots in your lawn with a hose instead of increasing the irrigation time on your timer.
- Place children's water toys on any dry spots in your lawn.
- Instead of washing your car in the street or driveway, park it on the lawn where it won't go to waste.
- Take the pets outside to be bathed—pick a dry spot in the lawn to wash them.
- Remember that not all brown spots in your lawn are caused from lack of water. If you have distinct irregularly shaped brown spots, the symptoms are most severe in late summer, and section of dead turf can be pulled up easily, the problem is probably grubs, a beetle larva. They feed on your turf's root system and kill it. If you question what is causing your turf problem, contact your CAU Extension County Office or a local nursery professional. They will probably want to see a sample of your turf.



PLANTS

- Plant your garden when temperatures are cooler and plants require less water—this is also less stressful for the plants.
- Use a thick layer of mulch (2 ½ to 3") around landscape plants and on bare soil surfaces—this reduces evaporation, promotes plant growth and reduces weeds.
- Collect the runoff from your roof in a barrel and use it on your plants and garden.
- Arrange plants in your garden according to watering need. This is called "Hydrozoning".
- Remove weeds from the garden—this helps cut down on excess water consumption due to plant competition.
- Don't overreact and try to drown the brown spots in your lawn. Simply moisten the area up a bit and the grass will green up in a few days.
- Create a compost pile and use it in your yard to add needed nutrients and organic matter to the soil.
- Don't over-water your plants. Learn how much water they need and how best to apply just the right amount.