

## **Spring into Action: 5 Lawn Care Tips that Help Take Care of Texas**

### **Water Wisely**

Avoid watering in the middle of the day. If using sprinklers, use larger drops close to the ground.

### **Collect and Use Rainwater**

Lawn and garden watering makes up 30 to 50 percent of total household water use. Collecting rainwater for landscape use is great for the plants and can save you water and money.

### **Use Native Texas Plants**

Plants that are native to Texas help conserve water and protect the soil, and require less pesticide, fertilizer, and maintenance—all saving you time and money. The deep root systems of many native plants also increase the soil's capacity to store water and reduce runoff.

### **Use Less Pesticides and Fertilizers**

More is not always better. To minimize environmental impact, apply pesticides and fertilizers according to the label's directions, and only use the recommended amount.

### **Try Composting**

Leaves, grass clippings, and other yard debris make up 20 percent of landfill trash. Instead of throwing them out, try composting them. Compost can serve as a soil conditioner and reduces the need for outdoor watering.

**Take Care of Texas—It's the only one we've got.**

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