

# Do More Waterwise

*We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one.*

- Jacques Cousteau

## **What is the problem: Too little water for our “needs”!**

- Water has become an invisible, cheap commodity instead of a critical resource
- Our water comes from far away: Surface and underground water sources are 67 to 120 miles away!
- We are using Ogallala aquifer water at 8 times the rate it is being replenished.
- About 70% of our water usage goes to growing green lawns
- We will have to reduce our demand by 30% to have enough water for future Texans according to the Texas Water Development Board

## **What can we do? Develop a water ethic!**

- Irrigate efficiently
- Reduce turf
- Choose appropriate plants
- Know your irrigation system
- Irrigate appropriately and maintain system
- Direct and retain rainwater for landscape use
- Reduce impermeable surfaces
- Convert to low water use toilets

# Know More Waterwise

## General References

**Alliance for Water Efficiency.**

<http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/>

**Barnett, C. 2011.** Blue Revolution, unmaking America's water crisis. Beacon Press Books. Boston, MA. 286 p.

**Comptroller, Susan Coombs.** 2011. Impact of the 2011 drought and beyond.

<http://comptroller.texas.gov/specialrpt/drought/96-1704-Drought.pdf>

**Texas A&M Agrilife Extension.** Earth-Kind landscaping: Landscape water Conservation. <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/training/landscape-water-conservation/>

**Texas A&M Agrilife Extension.** Water.

<https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/browse/featured-solutions/water/>

**Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)** Great site with everything from interactive games to how to manuals to area water reports. <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/home/index.asp>

**TWDB. 2016.** Water for Texas. 2017 State Water Plan

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/2017/doc/SWP17-Water-for-Texas.pdf>

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/2017/index.asp>

<https://2017.texasstatewaterplan.org/statewide> (interactive plan)

## Onsite Water Harvesting

**Lancaster, B.** Rainwater harvesting for drylands and beyond.

<http://www.harvestingrainwater.com/>

**Ludwig, Art.** Laundry to landscape system.

<http://oasisdesign.net/greywater/laundry/#design>

**Water Conservation Alliance of Southern Arizona.** Water CASA.

<http://www.watercasa.org/>