

Richardson's Environmental Resources Newsletter



ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR RICHARDSON RESIDENTS • JULY 2019

Water your yard wisely during Smart Irrigation Month

Many homeowners over water their yard, unintentionally wasting money every time they take out the hose or turn on the sprinklers. To raise awareness of efficient watering practices, the Irrigation Association has named July Smart Irrigation Month.

Using an automated irrigation system is one of the best ways to keep your lawn and landscape beautiful and healthy, while minimizing water waste. Make time this summer to be sure you're getting the most out of your irrigation system, while keeping utility bills low and helping to protect the environment.

- **Get in the zone.** Schedule each individual zone in your irrigation system to account for type of sprinkler, sun or shade exposure, and soil in that sec-



- tion.
- **Consider soil type.** Type of soil determines how quickly water can be absorbed without runoff.
- **Don't send water down the drain.** Set sprinklers to water plants, not your driveway, sidewalk, patio or buildings.
- **Water only when needed.** Saturate root zones and let the soil dry.
- **Water at the best time.** Prevent water loss by watering when the sun is low or down, winds are calm and temperatures are cool—typically between

the evening and early morning.

- **Water more often for shorter periods.** For example, setting your system to run for three, five-minute intervals lets soil absorb more water than watering for 15 minutes at one time, reducing runoff.
- **Adapt watering to the season.** Familiarize yourself with the settings on your irrigation controller and adjust the watering schedule regularly based on seasonal weather conditions. Or invest in a smart controller so your system can make these changes automatically.

For more tips and resources, visit the Smart Irrigation Month website at www.smartirrigationmonth.org.

BABIC experiences record-breaking amount of debris

The storm that blew through Richardson June 9 downed thousands of trees, largely in southwest Richardson. In the 13 days following the storm (June 10-22), Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC) crews collected 1,337 tons of tree limbs, brush and other debris, almost double the amount that's usually picked up in the entire month of June. Average monthly BABIC tonnage for June is 744 tons; the largest monthly tonnage picked up during June in the last 10 years is 1,097 tons (June 2015).

For more information, go to www.cor.net/BABIC.



Thousands of trees were lost in the June 9 storm, with the majority of the damage in southwest Richardson.

Downed trees turned into mulch, compost

Thousands of trees were lost during the June 9 storm, but all trees collected through the Brush and Bulky Item Collection service were taken to a facility to be recycled into mulch and compost, which can be purchased at a discount by Richardson residents. To learn more, visit www.texaspureproducts.com or visit the Custer Road Texas Pure facility at 9901 Custer Rd., Plano.

UPCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

July 4

Fourth of July holiday. Most City facilities will be closed and no solid waste, recycling or BABIC service will take place. Visit www.cor.net/holidayschedule for recycling make-up days.

For environmental news and videos in Richardson, visit Richardson Today online at www.richardsontoday.com/environmental.

Learn about ways to help beautify Richardson through the Community & Corporate Environmental Cleanup Program at www.cor.net/eipi and click on Richardson Informs.

VISIT WWW.COR.NET/EPI FOR MORE INFORMATION