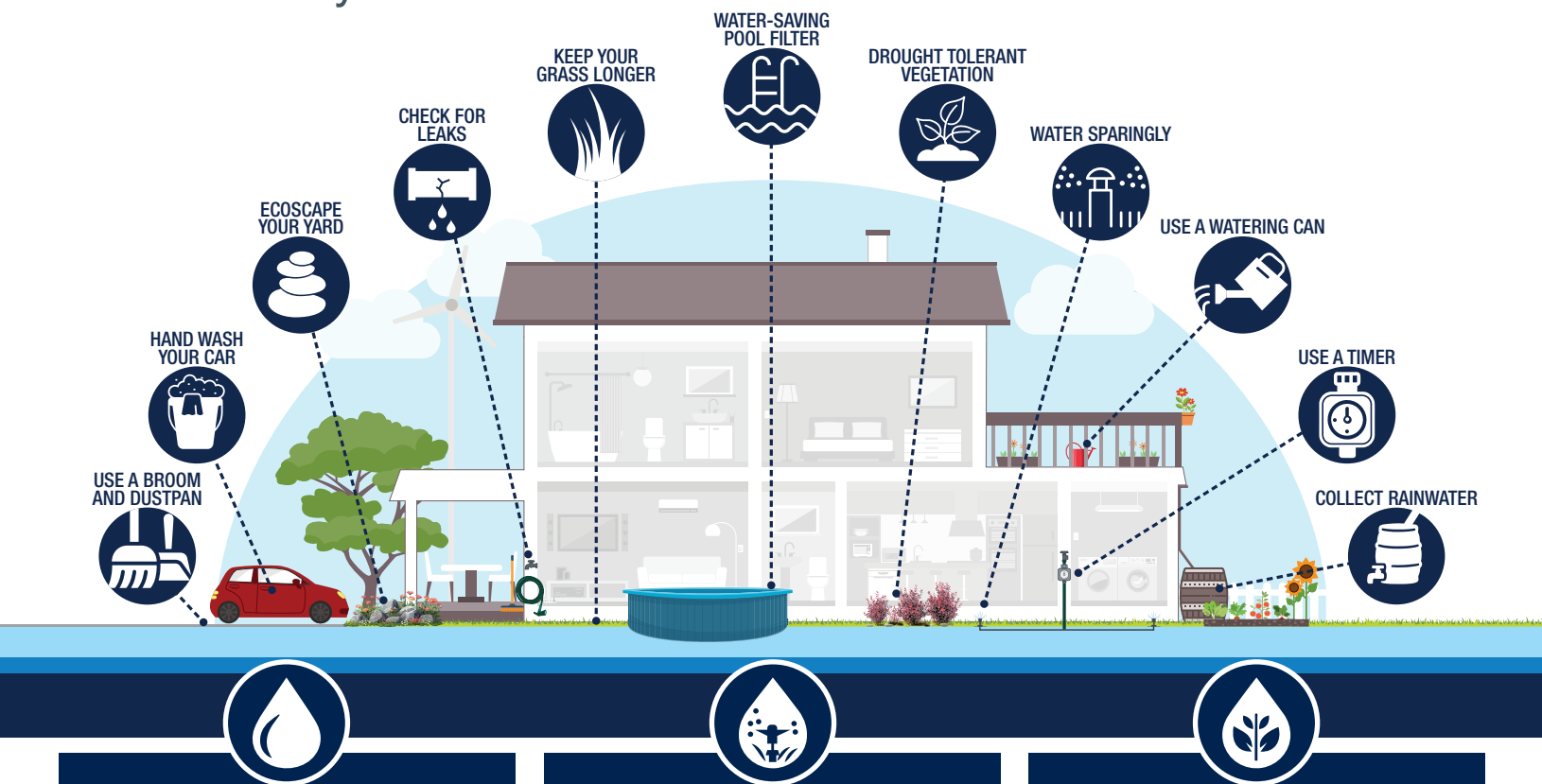


OUTDOOR WATER SAVING TIPS

Simple strategies to conserve water can reduce your water bill.



Water saving tips

- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- Give your car a sponge bath. Clean your car with a pail of soapy water and only use the hose to rinse off the suds.
- Check for leaks in outdoor pipes, faucets, and hoses. Also, watch for leaky or left-on sprinklers and fix them as soon as possible.
- Water-saving pool filters can reduce your water bill by minimizing the amount of water wasted during pool maintenance.
- Collect rainwater for watering plants, and use a watering can instead of a hose to target small garden areas.
- Switch to a sprinkler with a timer built in or purchase a timer that can be attached directly to your faucet.

Grass maintenance tips

- Keeping grass a bit taller (5 to 7 cm) to shade the soil helps moisture retention.
- Water lawns in the morning between 4 a.m. and 7 a.m. to reduce evaporation. Remember, lawns require only 2.5 cm of water per week.

Start grasscycling

- Grasscycling keeps moisture in the soil by leaving grass clippings on as you mow.
- Clippings quickly decompose, usually within three days, while retaining moisture in the soil.
- Mowing frequently helps grass clippings decompose quickly.

Ecoscape your yard

- Ecoscaping uses native and drought-tolerant plants, trees, and shrubs to create attractive, low-maintenance, and water efficient landscapes.
- Ecoscaping can reduce water use by 50% compared to conventional landscaping.
- Consider lawn alternatives. Mulch or wood chips around trees, shrubs, and plants can reduce evaporation and help retain valuable moisture.
- Plants that are native to Alberta are adaptable to drought and cold.
- Group plants with the same watering needs together to get the most out of your watering time.

