

Plan Ahead...

PREVENT FROZEN WATERLINES!



Train Wreck, S.L., C. 1903 Sharlot Hall Archives, #pb036a4p5

If you turn on a faucet and no water comes out your water line has frozen and may burst. Don't take any chances turn off the water at the main shut-off valve & unplug all nearby electrical devices. Keep faucet(s) open to relieve pressure.

Steps to reduce the risk of frozen pipes:

1. Pipes leading to the exterior spigots should be shut off and drained.
2. In the late fall early winter begin the winterization process.
3. Install caulking or foam insulation to reduce exposure to outside air leaks.
4. Wrap vulnerable pipes that are accessible with foam sleeves or insulation.
5. Gone for the season? Consider completely draining all water lines and fixtures.
6. Maintain interior temperatures above 55° when leaving for extended periods.
7. Hire a licensed plumber or handyman if you cannot do this work yourself.
8. Open bath and kitchen sink cabinet doors allowing warm air to circulate.
9. Allow a faucet to slow drip during extreme cold weather.

Water Smart™

www.prescott-az.gov

FALL

September | October | November

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDENS

Pull emerging weeds in beds when ground is moist and before they develop deep roots.

Mulch garden beds with leaves or compost to reduce winter weeds and feed the soil, or plant winter cover crops in open beds.

Prepare new planting areas by digging in compost.

TREE AND SHRUB BEDS

Prune to nature.

Mulch tree and shrub beds with leaves, shredded wood or bark.

Plant trees, shrubs and many perennials in early fall to give them a good start.

NATIVE AREAS

Native landscapes have a variety of plant heights, from groundcover underfoot to vines and trees overhead – look to nature for ideas.

Trim and shape native plant material to support urban natural landscape. Pay attention to Firewise landscape practices around your home.

Relax and enjoy the time off in the native garden.

LAWNS

Improve thin areas of lawn in Sept. - Oct. by aerating, overseeding and top-dressing with compost.

Fertilize lawns with “natural organic” or “slow-release” fertilizer in September to develop healthy roots and crowd out weeds.

Plant new lawns to give them the best start before next summer.

WATERING

Reduce watering during cooler weather.

Shut off and drain watering systems if you expect a freeze.

Put away exposed soaker hoses, or re-cover with mulch if left out.

COMPOSTING

Clear unwanted garden growth and compost it for spring. Keep pile as moist as a wrung-out sponge.

Source: EPA GreenScapes



Water Smart

Public Works Water Conservation
433 N Virginia St. Prescott, AZ 86302
www.prescott-az.gov
water.smart@prescott-az.gov | 928-777-1130

Information Links:
www.uvrwpc.org
www.epa.gov/greenscapes
www.epa.gov/watersense
extension.arizona.edu/yavapai
www.PrescottCreeks.org
www.sharlot.org/archives
ag.arizona.edu/arizonawet

Do you really Understand...

THE ENERGY & WATER CONNECTION

Nationally, roughly 4% of total electric use in the United States is for pumping and treating potable water and wastewater.



Irrigating Machine, Robnson Ranch Near Kirkland, C. 1930
Sharlot Hall Archives, #ra106p

- Hydropower in Arizona requires additional water due to high evaporation from reservoirs. Consider that it takes about 65 gallons of water to generate a single kWh of electricity.
- The average Yavapai household consumes 1,170 kWh a month equating to 14,040 kWh annually.
- A cubic foot of water weighs 62.4 pounds.
- A gallon of water weighs about 8.43 pounds.
- 325,851 gallons of water are equal to an acre foot weighing 2,744,339 pounds.

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WINTER

December | January | February

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDENS

Rake winter leaf mulch back onto beds if winds blow it off.

Research and order heirloom seeds.

Weed beds once during winter to prevent weeds going to seed.

TREE AND SHRUB BEDS

Prune fruit trees and other woody trees and shrubs while they're dormant (December–February). If you have questions, check with your local Cooperative Extension office or a nursery.

NATIVE AREAS

Design your yard to create more shade. It is an excellent way to save on water and cooling costs through the summer months.

Plant to combine evergreen and deciduous plants for interest throughout the year.

Select gray and sage green foliage plants generally for drought tolerance. Plant in groups for ribbons of foliage color.

LAWNS

Tune up yard equipment; sharpen mower blades. Plan drip irrigation or soaker hoses for beds and container to conserve water.

Winter is the time to plan for spring. Consider lawn reduction or new patio area.

Check storage areas for unwanted chemicals, and dispose safely. Call your local solid waste agency for details. Plan to replace plants that have disease or pest problems.

WATERING

Let nature do the work.

COMPOSTING

Continue to add fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, egg shells, nut shells, and house plant leaves and stalks from inside your home to your compost pile year round.

Source: EPA GreenScapes



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Did You KNOW?



**Prescott Electric Co. on Gurley Street. Sam Ferguson and Bert Savage
Sitting Out Front, Prescott, Arizona, C.1907**

Sharlot Hall Archives, #bub8060p

- Humans require about 2 1/2 quarts of water a day.
- The average individual uses about 125 gallons of water per day.
- Outdoor spigots can pump out 5 to 10 gallons per minute.
- Landscape irrigation can account for over 50% of water pumped during the growing season.
- Automatic dishwashers use about 15 gallons per load.
- Washing one load of clothes in an automatic washer uses about 45 gallons.
- An average residence uses 107,000 gallons of water per year.
- Cutting one minute off your shower time can save about 700 gallons of water per month.
- A faucet that drips 60 times in one minute would waste over 3 gallons a day, 1,225 gallons per year.

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SPRING

March | April | May

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDENS

Prepare new planting beds and gardens by mixing in one to three inches of compost.

Pull weeds when they first start growing, while soil is moist and roots are short, before they go to seed.

Buy plants that resist disease and use less water.

TREE AND SHRUB BEDS

Prepare new tree and shrub beds by mixing compost into the entire bed (not just planting holes).

NATIVE AREAS

Even native and well-adapted plants can have differing water and drainage requirements. Install natives on temporary irrigation system.

Pay careful attention to plant spacing. Even the tiniest acorn grows into a mighty oak. Thin or transplant natives if needed.

Choose drought-tolerant plants, and group them with others of similar needs.

LAWNS

Start mowing, about three inches high for most lawns in northern states; two inches for lawns in southern states. "Grass-cycle"—leave the clippings for free fertilizer.

For lawns in poor condition: aerate, overseed and top-dress with a quarter-inch to half-inch of compost.

Fertilize lawns if needed in May with "natural organic" or "slow-release" fertilizer.

WATERING

Check soil moisture at plant roots before watering—don't water until they need it.

Lay out soaker hoses in beds and cover with mulch.

Prepare sprinkler systems by testing, adjusting and repairing leaks.

COMPOSTING

Harvest compost from your bin. Throw any uncomposted sticks or stalks back in for another cycle.

Source: EPA GreenScapes



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“Let there be
work, bread,
Water and salt for all.”

-Nelson Mandela



Brinkmeyer's Bakery Wagon, Prescott, Arizona C. 1900

Sharlot Hall Archives, #ad111p

It takes about:

- ◆ 1 gallon of water to process a quarter pound of hamburger.
- ◆ 10 gallons of water are needed to refine one gallon of gasoline.
- ◆ 1,500 gallons of water to process 1 barrel of beer.
- ◆ 39,000 gallons of water to manufacture a new car, including tires.
- ◆ 800,000 gallons of water to grow an acre of cotton.

Source: www.brainyquote.com

What is Evapotranspiration?

Evapotranspiration (ET) is the combined loss of water from the soil and other wet surfaces due to evaporation and plant transpiration (plant uptake and use of water).

- 1. Drought-sensitive plants require approximately the total estimated ET amount of water.*
- 2. Drought-tolerant plants may be able to thrive on a fraction of the potential maximum water demand.*

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SUMMER

June | July | August

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDENS

Mulch flower and vegetable beds with compost or grass clippings to conserve water and control weeds.

Use fabric row covers to keep pests off sensitive vegetables.

Identify bugs before you spray, squash or stomp — they may be “good bugs” that eat pests.

TREE AND SHRUB BEDS

Mulch shrub and tree beds with shredded wood, leaves or bark once a year to conserve water, reduce weeds and feed the soil.

NATIVE AREAS

Put the right plant in the right place - shade-loving plants in the shade, and sun-loving plants in the sun.

Seasonal interest - choose plants for interest in each season – structure, berries and bark for winter, flowers and foliage for the other seasons.

Plants to Avoid - Invasive plants that escape from yards to take over natural areas. They choke out native species and upset the balance of the surrounding ecosystem.

LAWNS

Mow regularly, and leave the clippings on the lawn.

Keep mower blades sharp to reduce lawn damage and brown tips.

Consider saving water by letting some lawn areas (ones that don't get heavy traffic) go brown and dormant until fall.

WATERING

Water at dawn to reduce evaporation.

Water lawns one inch per week, if no rain, or let go brown and dormant (but water enough to moisten root zone once a month).

Start and re-check watering systems, and adjust for weather. (Don't water when it rains).

COMPOSTING

Add yard debris to compost pile; water pile to keep it moist. Place pile in shade or cover to hold moisture.

Source: EPA GreenScapes



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**“It’s better to have
loved and lost**

Than to have to do
**forty pounds
of laundry a week.”**

-Laurence J. Peter



American Laundry Interior, Montezuma Street, Prescott, Arizona C.1900
Sharlot Hall Archives, #bui136p

*Simply hang your towel up
for reuse, leave it on the
floor for an exchange.*

Water Smart™

www.prescott-az.gov

*~Your comfort is important to us
Consider your part
in the linen reuse program~*



Yavapai County Fairs; Booths, Grounds, Displays
Prescott, Arizona, C.1930
Sharlot Hall Archives, #pb025a4p16

Thank you, enjoy your stay

Water Smart™

Community Notes:

Information Links:



Celebrating AZ 100 Years of Statehood

www.arizona100.org

www.prescottarizonacentennial.org

Arizona Department of Commerce

www.azcommerce.com

Prescott Tourism

www.visit-prescott.com

Riparian Buffers

“The health of our waters
is the principle measure of
how we live on the land.”

-Luna Leopold



Granite Creek Near Granite Dells C.1920
Sharlot Hall Archives, #1a331p

Riparian

[ri-**pair**-ee-uh n] the vegetation,
habitats, or ecosystems along the
banks of streams, rivers, or lakes.

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www.prescott-az.gov



PRESCOTT CREEKS

www.PrescottCreeks.org

Riparian buffers are “Ribbons of Life”

Protect existing native vegetation for people, property, and wildlife...

...especially vegetation along a creek, known as the riparian buffer zone. Riparian buffers are part of a healthy, functioning waterway and provide many important functions. They are biologically rich communities, providing homes to birds, shrubs, flowers, trees, waterfowl, and other creatures. For this reason, they are known as “ribbons of life.”

Riparian buffers:

- Filtering out toxic pollutants
- Reduce erosion and stabilize stream banks
- Regulate flood flows
- Increase water storage and groundwater recharge
- Provide habitat for wildlife
- Provide cool, shady places for recreation

Growing and maintaining native vegetation will:

- Protect property from erosion and flooding
- Save money on fertilizers and pesticides
- Save time mowing and maintaining a lawn
- Help conserve water and save on your water bill

Smart moves to protect riparian vegetation:

- Restore altered riparian areas with native plants
- Control and remove non-native species.
- Fence livestock away from stream banks.
- Leave natural debris on site like leaves, twigs and do not mow down native flowers and grasses.

By caring for a healthy riparian buffer, you can enhance the aesthetics of your home or business and increase your property values.