

American Rivers and Fayette County Partner to Conserve Water

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The Fayette County Water System this month is launching new resources designed to help county water customers save money and conserve water, especially in the summer months. In partnership with the Water System, the Fayette County Extension office has produced a video educating customers on efficient landscape irrigation to maintain healthy yards and avoid common mistakes in outdoor watering.

The video is available to all on the Water System website at: <u>www.fayettecountyga.gov/water</u>. It provides an overview of irrigation principles for landscapes, with tips on irrigating with the right amount of water at the right time. It can help residents and homeowners' associations avoid overwatering that damages lawns, costs money and wastes water.

"Fayette County Water is excited to provide this information to our customers. Working together, we can take steps to conserve our precious water resources," said Water System Director Vanessa Tigert. "Efficient use of our water supply helps water customers and the Water System thrive and manage our water well."

"Extension is here to help residents keep our county vibrant, prosperous and healthy," said Fayette County Extension Agent Kim Toal. "We're excited to partner with Fayette County Water to educate residents on keeping our outdoor landscapes healthy and using water wisely."

"We are proud to partner with Fayette County Water and support their efforts to be good stewards of our most important natural resource," said Ben Emanuel, Atlanta-based Director of Clean Water Supply with American Rivers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving clean water for people and nature, which works in partnership with water systems throughout Georgia's upper Flint River basin. "Wise water use in Fayette County helps the local community and helps keep the Flint River healthy, especially in hot summers when river flows are low."

The Water System is also working with a number of residential and homeowners' association water customers to find and stop water leaks and encourage efficient outdoor watering. The Water System's efforts are supported by a partnership with American Rivers, which is receiving support from a grant by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation through funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Forest Service to support water management efforts that will benefit the upper Flint River system.

(Note: The views and conclusions contained in this press release are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and its funding sources. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government, or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation or its funding sources.)

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