

## Watering Tips to Save Time AND Money

▶ Automatic Sprinklers should have a timer and a moisture sensor.

▶ Have your sprinkler heads adjusted so they don't water the sidewalks, driveway, or house.



▶ Water ONLY when the grass shows signs of stress (grass that is under stress doesn't spring back after you step on it).

▶ Watering a little heavier and less frequently will allow roots to grow deeper, and they will be more resilient and less susceptible to dryer conditions.

▶ If you do not have an automatic sprinkler, you can purchase a hose timer for very little money.

▶ PLEASE don't sprinkle in the rain.

▶ If you can, always water early in the morning; there is less wind, less evaporation, and better soaking down to grow deeper roots.

▶ Delay starting to water in the spring to allow the roots to grow deeper.

▶ Keep the grass longer; it will hold water better and dry out slower.



**\$AVE MONEY**  
Irrigation Meter Program



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See inside for details

**Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2009, City sanitary sewer fees will be based on actual water usage.**

### **Why the change?**

The City previously charged sanitary sewer for the entire year based on the water usage in the winter. This potentially undercharges many properties (homes that are vacant in the winter, new homes that are not occupied until the summer), putting the additional burden of system costs on the remaining residents.



### **How much could my sewer bill be affected?**

Each household has control of its water use; therefore, you also have control of your water/sewer bill.

If you use a lot of city water for lawn irrigation, the result may be a much higher sewer bill than during the winter, unless you purchase an irrigation meter as described by this brochure.

### **How can I avoid higher bills?**

- 1) Reduce the amount of water used for irrigation.
- 2) Purchase a dedicated irrigation meter to separately measure the water used for outdoor watering and irrigation. (Sanitary sewer will not be charged for this water, and will only be charged for the water you use in your home.)

## **Irrigation Meter Process (and costs):**



1. Resident hires a licensed plumber to install the irrigation meter (Approximately \$500.00) *NOTE: Plumber costs will vary depending on what changes will be needed to add the irrigation meter.*
2. Plumber pulls a permit (\$55.00) at City Hall and purchases the irrigation meter, radio transmitter and attachments (\$420.00) *NOTE: You may pay for the meter over a 12-month period with your utility bill, interest free. Print the form on the City website or get a copy from City Hall to send with your plumber when they come in to pick up the permit.*
3. Plumber installs the irrigation meter.
4. Plumber or Resident schedules an appointment for the City to enter the residence to inspect the water meter and to install the meter transmitter (48 hour notice is required).

## **Automatic Pay Plan \$20.00 Promotion**

The City is offering a \$20 one-time discount on your next utility bill if you sign up for the City's Automation Pay Plan. This one-time discount will also be retroactive to those customers already signed up. Medina utility customers are provided with this opportunity to have utility payments directly deducted from your checking or savings accounts.

Anyone interested in the Automatic Pay option must sign up by completing and returning to the City an authorization form (found on the City's website at [www.ci.medina.mn.us](http://www.ci.medina.mn.us)) and submit a voided check for checking accounts or a deposit ticket for savings accounts.

Once signed up, bill payments will be taken from the designated bank account and automatically sent to the City. The payment will be deducted from the bank account on the date that the payment is due.

Because bills vary, the City will send automatic payment statements to the utility customer showing the exact amount due to be deducted from the designated bank account. The utility customer bank statements will also show the amount of deduction.

Benefits of the \$20 one-time discount program to the City include time and labor savings in distributing and processing the bills manually.

