Water Reuse for Gardens

Conservation Methods

Where Does It Come From?

- We get all our fresh water from rain/snow.
- Rain settles in the soil where possible.
- The water that the soil can't hold flows to lakes and the ocean.

How Does It Get to Us?

- We pump it from our wells.
- Water utilities collect, store, treat and distribute/sell it.
- Of all the water handled by utilities in Canada, 70% is for residential use!
- Conservation saves us money and reduces environmental impacts.

Cut Out The Middleman

- Utilities and wells only deliver one type of water – for drinking.
- It costs utilities and the environment a lot to protect and move drinking water around.
- So if we can use 'other water' for gardens, that's a good thing.
- We each generate 'other water', so let's catch and use it.

Barriers to 'Reuse Water'

- What types are there?
- How do we catch and store it?
- How do we deliver it to where we need it?
- How do we make sure we get the best use of it?

Water Reuse for Gardens

- Rainwater is ideal for gardens – warmer and no chlorine.
- Large and small catchment systems depending on your need.
- Need pressure to deliver water to irrigation.
- Need smart controls to water only the right amount when needed.
- Save 60 - 90% of water!
Simple Collection

- Proper collection has:
  - Cleaning and a managed overflow.
  - Access to tank.
  - A way to easily drain tank.
  - Winter flow diversion.

Pressure Distribution

- Gravity only lets you fill a bucket or wand water.
- Pressure is needed for drippers/sprinklers.
- A pump pushes the water from tank to garden.

Using Water Efficiently

- More plants are harmed by overwatering than under-watering.
- Moisture sensing lets you know when you need to water.
- Timing matters.
- Drip irrigation is best.
- Automation prevents watering mistakes.

Smart Watering Automation

- Rainwater first.
- Moisture sensing.
- Timing matters.
- Pulse watering.
- Make-up water.
- Power from solar or grid.
- Reduce garden’s house water consumption by 60-90%.