# Texas Turfgrass Grown to Enjoy, Grown to Last



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER Incorporating the right landscaping principles can help homeowners and landscapers conserve water. This involves choosing the right grass, having good soil depth, understanding good management and utilizing smart watering practices. Below are some tips to help you maintain a healthy lawn throughout the year.

# Is Your Lawn Water Smart?

### Be prepared...

- Modify your landscape design to minimize water run-off
- Improve the soil by adding organic matter
- Select more drought-tolerant turfgrass varieties

# Think ahead...

- Water late at night or early in the morning
- Water infrequently and deeply
- Reduce thatch and compaction by aerating your lawn at least once a year
- Sharpen your mower blades
- Mow often enough so you never remove more than the top one-third or one-half of the grass blades
- Leave clippings on the lawn as you mow

## Deal with it...

- Follow the recommended mowing height for your turfgrass variety
- Reduce traffic on the lawn
- Restrict watering to the areas most important to you
- Accept that part of your lawn will be dormant and brown for a while

# After a dry spell...

- Grass will naturally begin to recover
- Deep recuperative watering restores the soil moisture

Using proper lawn maintenance technique will not only help ensure that your lawn will be beautiful but that it continues to be a safe play area as well. It also effectively controls erosion and dust, while naturally converting carbon dioxide to clean oxygen.

Information provided by The Lawn Institute (thelawninstitute.org)

# **Drought-Resistant Turfgrass Varieties\***

#### ST. AUGUSTINE GRASS

Amerishade SA Common Delmar Floratam Palmetto Raleigh Sapphire TamStar™

#### BUFFALOGRASS

609

BERMUDAGRASS Celebration Common GNI Grimes EXP Premier Tex Turf TifSport Tifway 419

#### ZOYSIAGRASS

Cavalier

- El Toro
- Emerald
- Empire
- Jamur
- Palisades
- Y-2
- Zeon
- Zorro



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#### **Texas Department of Agriculture** Commissioner Sid Miller P.O. Box 12847

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txsod.com

#### **Turfgrass Producers of Texas**

The Turfgrass Producers of Texas, chartered in 1972, represents more than 80 producers across the state. The organization facilitates the exchange of scientific and practical knowledge relating to the production and marketing of sod, encourages adherence to high standards in business practices, and cooperates with private and public organizations to promote the benefits of turfgrass. To locate a grower or a particular sod type, visit txsod.com.