

# The Full Circle

Current news and helpful tips from Carmel Utilities



**Efficient Outdoor Water Use,  
Saves Money and Water and is  
Best for Your Plants!**

## Landscape Watering

One of the most important steps in maintaining a healthy landscape is effective watering. A properly watered lawn and garden is more resistant to pests and other lawn problems. However, much of the

water used to maintain our landscapes is wasted through inefficient watering techniques. By developing a water-efficient lawn and garden, you can maintain a healthy and beautiful yard that benefits the environment.



## Water Efficient Landscapes

A water-efficient landscape starts with plant selection. Choosing plants adapted to the Carmel area will help make your landscape both beautiful and water-efficient. Plants native to Carmel typically require less maintenance and smaller amounts of

pesticides, fertilizers, and supplemental water. Keep in mind, though, that newly planted landscaping will require more water than an established area. Adjust your watering schedule according to the needs of your plants.

## Watering Mistakes

Much of the water applied to lawns and gardens never gets absorbed by the plants. Common ways that water is wasted include:

**Runoff**...Applying too much water in too short of a time causes runoff, because grass and plants can only absorb so much water at a time.

**Evaporation**...Watering in the middle of the day or using a sprinkler that

sprays a fine mist causes much of the water you apply to be lost through evaporation. Plants do not have enough time to absorb the water before it is evaporated by the sun.

**Overwatering**...Applying too much or too often causes the greatest waste of water. In addition to overwatering the plant, excessive irrigation can leach nutrients deep into the soil away from plant roots.

## Watering Correctly

Water more often for shorter periods in the same cycle. For example, moving your sprinkler or setting your system to run for three five-minute intervals lets soil absorb more water than watering for 15 minutes at one time.

Morning or evenings are the best times to water.

If you water in the evening, finish watering 30 minutes before sunset so the grass can dry off before nightfall.

Water only when needed. Saturate root zones and let the soil dry. Watering too much and too frequently results in shallow roots, weed growth, disease and fungus.



**Join us Saturday, August 12 for the IU Health North Gallery Walk on Main Street  
Barrels will be auctioned off on Saturday, August 19 during the Carmel Farmers Market**



## Rain on Main Returns to the Arts & Design District

Rain on Main, a painted rain barrel contest is returning to the Carmel Arts & Design District. The event will debut at the IU Health North Gallery Walk on **Saturday, August 12**. The barrels will remain on Main Street through the following week for everyone's enjoyment. In addition to having the barrels judged by experts, there will be a "People's Choice" selection based on votes from the public via Facebook likes on the Rain on Main page.

On **Saturday, August 19** the barrels will then be relocated to the Carmel Farmers Market where they will be auctioned off to the highest bidders via a silent auction. Water information tents with giveaways will also be present. The silent auction opens at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 11 a.m. Net proceeds from the auction will be used to fund water education signage in Carmel Clay Parks.

Rain on Main is possible due to sponsorship by Anthony's Chophouse, a new exciting restaurant coming to the Monon and Main area of the Arts & Design District.



The event is also supported by Carmel businesses Touch'N Go Collision, Sherwin-Williams on Range Line Road and Sherwin-Williams Automotive. Rain on Main is organized by City of Carmel Utilities, Carmel Department of Storm Water Management and Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District. Rain barrels continue to grow in popularity across the country and beautifully painted rain barrels increase their desirability and encourage water conservation by the use of recycled rainwater.

Rain barrels sit under gutter down spouts to collect and store rainwater from roofs that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains, streams and rivers. The collected water can then be used to water plants in the landscape instead of using treated water which saves water and energy.

**More information about Rain on Main  
can be found at [www.RainOnMain.com](http://www.RainOnMain.com) or  
[www.Facebook.com/RainOnMain](https://www.facebook.com/RainOnMain)**