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| The WaterSense Current |
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|  | Issue XXVI, Spring 2013****In This Issue:**** ****Take Spring Cleaning Outdoors and Spruce Up Your Sprinkler****Spring is often a time for tackling those tough chores indoors. But you can also save water and money outdoors with a little sprinkler spruce-up this season. If you have an irrigation system, chances are it has been dormant for the past several months. Take a few minutes to check your system for common problems, [such as leaks or malfunctioning sprinkler heads](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/spring2013.html#one).****National Mayor’s Challenge Takes its Water-Saving Show on the Road****April is Earth Month, and the Wyland Foundation’s second annual National Mayor’s Challenge for Water Conservation makes participating as easy as pledging to reduce your water use. On April 1, the foundation launched a friendly competition among many cities across the United States to see whose residents are the most "water-wise." Mayors from across the country will challenge their constituents to make [free, online commitments during April to reduce their water use](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/spring2013.html#two).****Water-Smart Photos Demonstrate the Green of the Crop****Looking for a little "greenspiration" when you head outside to your yard this spring? WaterSense has added nearly 100 new images to its Water-Smart Landscape Photo Gallery to showcase some of the most beautiful water-smart landscapes for spring. More than 60 home and business owners, landscape designers, and irrigation professionals entered WaterSense’s [recent contest to demonstrate how beautiful water-smart practices can be](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/spring2013.html#three).****Three Restaurants Earn Their Stars for Reducing Water Use****Hospitality and food service establishments account for approximately 15 percent of the total water use in U.S. commercial and institutional facilities. Restaurants across the country have begun to realize the [benefits of water-efficient kitchen and restroom equipment, including energy savings](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/spring2013.html#four).****Three-Time WaterSense Partners of the Year Agree "Wasting Water Is Weird"****Third time is a charm; or is it just plain weird? Kohler Co. and Lowe’s Companies, Inc. each earned their third WaterSense Partner of the Year award in 2012, after joining forces with WaterSense and other organizations on a [public service announcement (PSA) campaign called "Wasting Water Is Weird."](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/spring2013.html#five)

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| If you prefer not to receive these messages, please email watersense@epa.gov with "WaterSense Current unsubscribe" indicated in the subject line. http://www2.ergweb.com/listserv/Arlington/WaterSense/Images/body_bottom.gif |

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|   | WaterSense, a partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by offering people a simple way to use less water.The WaterSense Current is a quarterly update dedicated to news and events related to WaterSense.For more information, please visit the [WaterSense website](http://www.epa.gov/watersense). |   |

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| Photo of water |

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| How Many Drops of Water? |
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|   | Approximately how many gallons of water can a broken or missing sprinkler head waste over a six-month irrigation season? A. 250 gallonsB. 2,500 gallonsC. 25,000 gallons See this issue of the WaterSense Current for the [correct answer!](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/spring2013.html) |

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