

Caring for your tree seedlings during the outdoor watering ban

Outdoor watering restrictions vary, depending on where you live in Georgia. Your city or county may allow some limited outdoor watering, so be sure to check their website or call the water department for the latest regulations.

- Mulch your seedling well with pine straw, pine bark nuggets or shredded hardwood mulch to combat weeds and help retain water in the soil.
- Purchase or construct a rain barrel to capture roof runoff, <http://www.noahsrainbarrel.net/install.htm> has instructions on how to make one at minimal cost.
- During warm weather, you can capture your air conditioner condensate water for outdoor watering.
- You can use water captured in buckets while waiting for your bath, shower or sink water to heat up for watering outside nonfood plants, according to Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (EPD) this can amount to several gallons per person per day.
- If you have a private well you are exempt from the outdoor watering ban, although you are still urged to practice water conservation to protect our vital groundwater resources.
- Visit the Conserve Water Georgia website at www.conservewatergeorgia.net for other water saving tips!