Water Conservation

TIP #9

Water Wise
SUNSHINE COAST

A Water-Wise Alternative to Grass: Clover

For many years, clover in the lawn was commonplace and even sought after for its radiant emerald colour. However, with the introduction of broad-leafed herbicides, clover has become socially accepted as an unwanted weed. But is clover really that bad?

Consider this:

- Clover is much more drought-resistant than traditional grass varieties, so it stays greener longer in warm weather without having to use as much water;
- It's soft on the feet;
- Larger leaves shade the soil keeping it cooler and moist;
- It has one of the best flowers for bees (something we need with rapidly declining numbers in bee populations);
- It's resistant to dog urine;
- It releases nitrogen into the soil which is a beneficial nutrient for grass.

Pure clover lawns are great for low-traffic areas; however, for more often used areas, a mixture of grass and clover will work well.

Clover lawns may not work everywhere. Rather, they serve as a more water-efficient option to traditional lawns. With climate change knocking on our doors, new options such as clover could reduce our impact on our water and environment.

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

For other water conservation information visit www.scrd.ca or call SCRD Water Conservation at 604-885-6806.

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