

### WATER CHECK PROGRAM



According to the USGS (2010), Utahns have the highest water use in the nation on a per capita basis and nearly 2/3rds of that water is used for irrigating lawns and landscapes. The Utah State University Extension Water Check Program is helping Utahns reduce their overall water use while maintaining the quality of life provided by beautiful landscapes.

The USU Extension Water Check Program is a Wasatch-Front based effort to assist homeowners, commercial property managers, and institutions with efficient landscape irrigation management. The program focuses on the application efficiency of landscape irrigation systems and components by identifying and measuring irrigation system flaws and inefficiencies.

To date, the USU Extension Water Check Program has conducted more than 13,000 residential and 500 commercial, industrial, or institutional Water Checks in the state, improving the water efficiency of thousands of acres of irrigated landscaping.

Funding support from the Utah Legislature has allowed for the development of a tablet-based application to collect Water Check data. This support has also allowed us to convert the program's previous database to a structured query language database that accepts field data from multiple users and allows for the generation of customized reports for program partners.

### THE USU WATER CHECK PROGRAM CONSERVES UTAH'S WATER



Participants in Salt Lake City were found to be using 25,000 gallons of water for irrigation monthly prior to program participation. This was 8000 more gallons of water per month than the average for the city. Following participation, **Water Check participants reduced their monthly irrigation volume by 8000 gallons**, resulting in an **annual savings of 47,000 gallons per participant**.