

# Top tips for tree watering

- 1) Water late or early in the day - this will help reduce evaporation
- 2) Water slowly so the water does not run off. The ground may be hard so water will take time to permeate through the surface, so, especially to begin with, water slowly and thoroughly
- 3) Allow for at least 1 watering can (twice a week) per inch trunk diameter. Therefore if the trunk of the tree is 2" thick, give the tree 2 full watering cans twice a week. Less than this can lead to surface roots growing which can exacerbate problems if the watering stops
- 4) Water under the canopy of the tree - this is where most feeding roots will be. Sometimes a watering tube is sticking out of the ground-pour water down this tube so as many roots as possible will receive water
- 5) If possible, mulch the base of the tree. This will help reduce evaporation, weed competition, sun reflection etc. Mulch around the base (making sure the mulch does not touch the trunk) for at least 1 metre diameter around the trunk. Mulch can be shredded tree bark, wood chippings, leaf mould or even bits of old carpet!
- 6) Where possible, re-use "grey" water such as bath water, washing up water (provided it does not contain too much detergent), water from water butts etc.