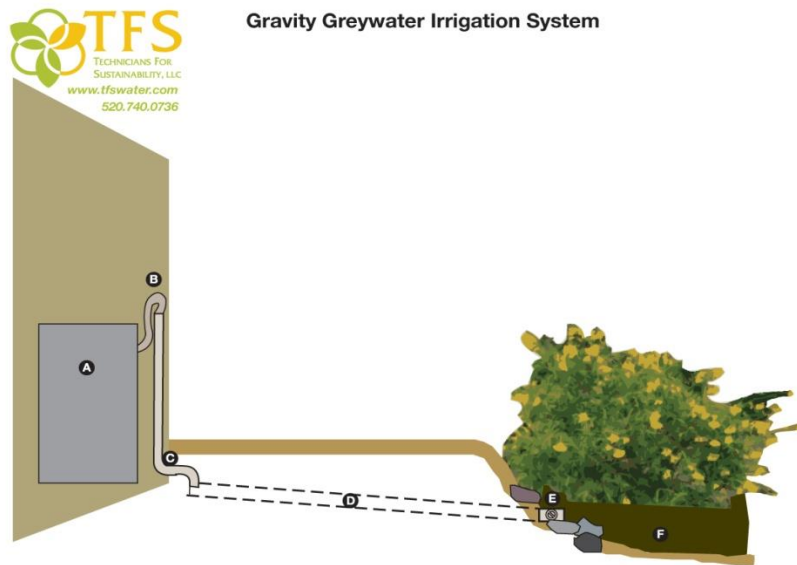


Graywater Retrofit Process

Graywater discharged from your washing machine is the most easily obtained source of potential irrigation water in the home.

Things to consider if plan to use graywater from your washing machine in your garden:

- See where your washer discharge is in relation to the area you want to water
- How easy is it to get this water to your garden; a washer outlet near an exterior wall works best
- View the distance and elevation from your graywater source to your planned or existing garden (longer distances and increasing elevation may mean gravity could use some help from a pump)
- Look at your washer owner manual to see how many gallons are available for each wash cycle (large capacity machines plus a large family mean more water available for irrigation)
- A small tank may be required to allow a screen for lint and other particles to be removed
- Run mainline “poly pipe” as straight as possible, avoid kinks and bends
- Use drip irrigation close to the plant to minimize evaporation; don’t water too many plants
- Proper garden location may allow graywater to gravity flow to reach your plants
- Keep the system as simple as possible



A) Washing machine: Laundry machine can be located outdoors or indoors, near an exterior wall.

B) Graywater standpipe: Laundry discharge hose is placed in this pipe, labeled “GRAYWATER,” for discharge into graywater garden. Sewer drain pipe is maintained for manual switch to sewer if desired.

C) Wall penetration: 2 ½” hole in wall for painted ABS pipe, caulked around pipe edge.

D) Graywater pipe: Typically run underground at ¼”/foot slope to discharge graywater to garden. This pipe can be branched to provide multiple outlets.

E) Backwater valve: One-way flap valve at pipe outlets prevents anything from entering the pipe.

F) Mulched, vegetated basin: Heavy mulch acts as a filter for solids in graywater and retains moisture longer for plants. Graywater recipient plants may include non-edible desert shrubs or trees and fruit trees or vegetable plants where the graywater does not touch the edible part of the plant.