

THE FOLLOWING  
WATER  
CONSERVATION  
TIPS ARE  
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- ◆ Operate fully loaded clothes washing machines and dishwashers.
  - ◆ Use the garbage disposal sparingly and compost vegetable food waste and save gallons.
  - ◆ Turn off the tap while you shave or brush your teeth and take shorter showers.
  - ◆ Use two basins when washing dishes by hand, one for washing and one for rinsing, rather than a running faucet.
  - ◆ Clean vegetables using water in a pan and a vegetable brush rather than letting the tap run.
  - ◆ Put a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator so you don't have to run the tap each time
- someone gets a glass of water.
- ◆ Defrost frozen food without running water over the packages. Place food in the refrigerator overnight or defrost in the microwave.
  - ◆ Water lawn only when necessary, a deep soak weekly in the morning or early evening (when the least evaporation occurs) should be adequate. Use hose nozzles that can be shut off when not in use. A single hose left on uses nearly 300 gallons of water per hour.
  - ◆ Remove water-thirsty weeds from your garden.
  - ◆ Maintain your lawn with grass blades 2-1/2 to 3 inches high. Blades can shade each other and reduce evaporation.
  - ◆ Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants so that more water can be retained.
- ◆ Use a pool cover to keep water clean and reduce evaporation.
  - ◆ Recycle water for use on lawn or garden (not dish soap water, but shower/bath water or rinse cycle water from the washing machine are fine). Catching rain water is another good option.
  - ◆ Sweep patios, walkways, driveways, etc. instead of spraying down with a hose.
  - ◆ Wash automobiles with soap, water and a bucket. Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle for a quick final rinse or use a commercial car wash that recycles water.

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# WATER CONSERVATION TIPS



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# WELCOME

This brochure is designed to answer some frequently asked questions about water usage and conservation to help protect our natural community and save money and energy.

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## WATER USAGE INFORMATION

### How much water are you using Gallons/Minute or Total Gallons?

Household Faucet	3-5
Gal/Min	
Shower	5-
10 Gal/Min	
Tub Bath	50 Gallons
if full	
Dishwasher	15-20
Gallons	
Washing Machine	35-40
Gallons	
Dripping Faucet	1,000
Gal/Year	
Flushing Toilet	5
Gallons	
Brushing Teeth	2
Gallons	
8 Minute Shower	40 Gallons

### How much water are you using if you conserve?

4 Minute shower	20 Gallons
Tub bath/half full	25 Gallons
Dishwashing by hand	10
Gallons	
Energy efficient	
washing machine	15 Gallons
Low flow toilet	1.5 Gallons
Brushing teeth with	
water not running	.25 Gallons

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## OTHER WAYS TO CONSERVE

There are a number of ways to save water and they all start with you.

- ◆ Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models OR replace faulty toilet flappers.
- ◆ When buying new appliances, consider those that offer cycle and load size adjustments for efficiency.
- ◆ Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install and can save you up to 750 gallons per month.
- ◆ Listen for dripping faucets and running

toilets. Fixing a leak can save 300 gallons per month or more.

- ◆ Toilet leaks may be silent. Testing is the only way to find out if yours leaks. Put food coloring in your toilet tank and if it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
- ◆ If your dishwasher is new, cut back on pre-rinsing dishes. Newer models clean more thoroughly than older models.
- ◆ Washing dark clothes in cold water. This saves water and energy while helping your clothes keep their colors.
- ◆ Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
- ◆ Bathe your young children together.
- ◆ Avoid recreational water toys that require a constant flow of water.
- ◆ When adding or replacing flowers and shrubs, choose low water use plants for year-round landscape color and save up to 550 gallons each year.
- ◆ Adjust your watering schedule each month to match seasonal weather conditions and landscape requirements.
- ◆ Water only when necessary. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering.
- ◆ Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help to discover leaks.
- ◆ Share water conservation tips with family, friends and neighbors.
- ◆ Report broken pipes, open hydrants and errant sprinklers to the property owner or your water provider.
- ◆ When you save water, you save money on utility bills too. Saving water is easy for everyone to do.