



Home Water Conservation Tips

Do one thing each day that will save water. Even if savings are small, every drop counts!

THE BATHROOM

- Install water saving low-flow showerheads.
- Test for toilet leaks by adding food coloring to the water tank and wait 15 minutes. If there is color in the bowl after 15 minutes, you may have a leak. (Food coloring can stain the tank, so make sure to flush as soon as the test is done.)
- Don't use the toilet to dispose of tissues or other trash. Every flush uses 1.6 to 7.0 gallons of water.
- Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes and you'll save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Take shallow baths! A bathtub filled half full holds about 35 gallons of water.
- Turn the water off while you brush your teeth and save 8 gallons a minute.

THE KITCHEN

- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
- Avoid running water to thaw food.
- Run the dishwasher only when it is full and you could save 1,000 gallons a month.
- Use a bowl of water to clean and prepare vegetables, rather than letting the faucet run.
- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.

THE LANDSCAPE

- Minimize grassy areas, which require the most water.
- Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant.
- Use mulch to help the soil retain moisture and to reduce weeds.
- Use a soaker hose to water plants, trees, and shrubs.
- Plant in the spring or fall, when watering requirements are lower.

THE LAUNDRY

- Run your washing machine only when you have a full load and you could save 1,000 gallons a month.
- Check hose connections for leaks.

THE LAWN

- Avoid excessive watering. Most lawns need only an inch of water per week to stay healthy. Measure the amount of time it takes your sprinkler to deliver that much water, and do not exceed the total time for the week. A shallow container, such as a tuna can, can be used to measure the water.
- Reduce evaporation by watering in the evening or early in the morning.
- Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Avoid sprinklers that spray a fine mist, which increases evaporation.

For more information visit:

http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/what_you_can_do.html

http://www.kwo.org/projects_programs/Water_Conservation_Education.html