



25 WAYS TO SAVE WATER

Check your toilet for leaks.

Put a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the coloring begins to appear in the bowl, you may be wasting more than 100 gallons of water per day.

Stop using your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket.

Every cigarette butt or tissue you flush also flushes away 5-7 gallons of water.

Place a plastic bottle in your toilet tank.

Put an inch or two of sand or pebbles in the bottom of a one liter bottle to weight it down. Place the bottle in the tank away from the working mechanism. In the average home, this may 5 or more gallons of water per day.

Take shorter showers.

A typical shower uses 5 to 10 gallons per minute. Limit your showers to the time to soap up, wash down and rinse off.

Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.

Hardware and plumbing supply stores stocks inexpensive shower head water flow restrictors.

Take baths.

A partially filled tub uses less water than all but the shortest showers.

Turn the water off while brushing the teeth.

Before brushing, wet your brush and fill a glass for rinsing your mouth.

Turn the water off while shaving.

Fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of water in which to rinse your razor.

Check faucets and pipes for leaks.

Even a small drip can waste 50 or more gallons of water per day.

Use your dishwasher for full loads only.

Running the dishwasher less often saves water and money.

Use your washing machine for full loads only.

Your washing machine uses 30-35 gallons per load.

Do not let the faucet run while you clean vegetables.

Rinse your vegetable in a bowl of clean water.

Keep a bottle of drinking water in your refrigerator.

This puts a stop to running tap water to cool it down.

If you wash dishes by hand, do not leave the water to run for rinsing.

If you have two sinks, fill one with rinse water. If you have one sink, place clean dishes in a dish rack and rinse quickly with sprayer.

Water your lawn only when it needs it.

Watering on a schedule does not allow for cool spells or rain. If you step on the grass and it springs back up, it does not need watering.

Water during the cool part of the day.

Every morning is better than dusk since it helps prevent growth of fungus.

Do not water the gutter.

Position your sprinklers for the water to fall on the grass. Avoid watering on windy days when much of your water could be carried off by the streets and sidewalks.

Plant drought resistant trees and shrubs.

Many beautiful trees and plants survive without a lot of water.

Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants.

Mulch slows the evaporation of moisture.

Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and steps.

Using a hose wastes hundreds of gallons of water.

Do not run the hose while washing your car.

Soap down car from a pail of soapy water. Only use the hose to rinse it off.

Tell the children not to play with hose and sprinklers.

Children love to play with water on hot days. Unfortunately, this practice is very wasteful.