



Ways to Conserve Water

General Tips:

Listen for dripping faucets and running toilets. Fixing a leak can save 300 gallons a month or more.

Don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.

Put a few drops of food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

Make sure there are water-saving aerators on all of your faucets.

In the Kitchen:

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.

Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.

Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.

Don't run the dishwasher after every meal. Wait until you have a full load of dishes.

In the Bathroom:

If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.

Turn off water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons a month.

Turn off the water while you shave and save up to 300 gallons a month.

If your toilet was installed before 1992, reduce the amount of water used for each flush by inserting a displacement device in the tank.

In the Laundry:

Run your clothes washer only when full. You can save up to 1000 gallons a month.

When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.

In the Yard:

Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.

If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.

Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.

Set a kitchen timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you when to stop. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons a minute.

Use a rain gauge, or empty tuna can, to track rainfall on your lawn. Then reduce your watering accordingly.

Remember to check your sprinkler system valves periodically for leaks and keep the sprinkler heads in good shape.

Install a rain sensor on your irrigation controller so your system won't run when it's raining.

Consult with your local nursery for information on plant selection and placement for optimum outdoor water savings.

Direct water from rain gutters and HVAC systems toward water-loving plants in the landscape for automatic water savings.

Winterize outdoor spigots when temperatures dip below freezing to prevent pipes from leaking or bursting.

Wash your car on the lawn, and you'll water your lawn at the same time.

Use a hose nozzle or turn off the water while you wash your car. You'll save up to 100 gallons every time.

