

Water Conservation Tips

Conservation Saving Potential

- A drippy faucet that leaks one drop per second wastes approximately 2,000 gallons per year.
- A running toilet wastes 200 gallons per day.
- An average shower uses 20 to 30 gallons of water each usage.
- A water sprinkler will use 300 gallons of water per hour.
- Cutting daily shower times by five minutes will save 9,000 gallons of water per year.
- Turn off the water while brushing teeth to save six gallons per day.
- Washing your vehicle for 10 minutes with an unrestricted hose will use 80 gallons of water a minute.

Indoor Conservation Tips

- Turn faucets off when not in use. For example, you can turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth.
- Repair all leaking faucets, pipes, and toilets.
- Defrost frozen food in a refrigerator or microwave instead of running hot water over it.
- Dispose of toxic chemicals properly; do not pour them down the drain.
- Install water saving fixtures like low consumption toilets, efficient faucets, and shower heads.
- Do not throw trash into the toilet; this may result in unnecessary flushing.
- By taking a quick shower instead of a bath, you will save 20 gallons of water.
- Clean vegetables in a sink or pan partially filled with water, rather than running the tap.
- Reuse water from washing vegetables to water plants.
- Insulate your water pipes.
- Instead of waiting for water to be cold enough to drink; try keeping water in the refrigerator.
- Compost food scraps, or dispose of them in the garbage, instead of using the food disposal in your sink.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Cut back on the amount of rinsing before loading the dishwasher.
- Only run the clothes washer when you have a full load, or adjust the water level accordingly.

Outdoor Conservation Tips

- Water your lawn early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation.
- Only water your lawn when it shows signs of needing water; over watering is bad for plants and lawns; it promotes shallow root growth, that can make your lawn less hardy.
- Cover swimming pools to minimize the loss of water through evaporation.
- Sweep sidewalks or driveways instead of using a hose.
- Install efficient irrigation devices that can be adjusted according to the lawn's needs.
- Do not leave sprinklers or hoses on unattended.
- Maintain a lawn height of 2.5 to 3 inches to help protect the roots from heat stress and reduce the loss of moisture to evaporation.
- Water in several short sessions versus one long session, this allows the ground to absorb the water.
- Check sprinkler systems and hoses periodically for leaks, and keep nozzle heads in good repair.
- Make sure your sprinkler is placed to only water the lawn, not the sidewalk and the street.

- Avoid sprinklers that spray a fine mist, which increases evaporation.
- Wash your vehicle with a bucket of soapy water and use a nozzle to stop the flow of water between rinsing.
- Consider washing your vehicle on the lawn (if possible) to reduce runoff.