

WATER CONSERVATION

IMPORTANT WATERING INFORMATION



Outdoor

Watering Tips

- Limit lawn watering to an inch of water a week, rain included.
- Consider installing drip irrigation to apply water slowly and directly to the roots of plants and trees. It is more effective and uses less than half as much water as a sprinkler.
- Water before sunrise or after sunset for most efficient use. Much of the water applied during daytime is lost to evaporation.
- Install a rain sensor on your irrigation system. It prevents your sprinklers from coming on when it's raining.
- Check your sprinklers to be sure you are not watering the driveway or the street. (they won't grow!)

- Use drought tolerant plants.

- Use mulch around plants to keep moisture in the ground and reduce water needs. (1 cubic yard of mulch covers 100 sq. ft. to a 3 " depth)

- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean hard surfaces.

- Don't let the hose run while you wash your car. Use a cut off nozzle to prevent waste.

Learn how to turn off your automatic sprinkler controls in case of a malfunction or leak.

Indoor Water Use Tips

- ✓ Find and fix all leaks. A faucet drip of 2 tablespoons a minute can add up to 105 gallons a week of water wasted.

- ✓ Take shorter showers. If everyone in the United States shortened their shower by one minute every day, we could save 85 billion gallons per year.

- ✓ Install water-saving devices like low flow showerheads and faucet aerators.

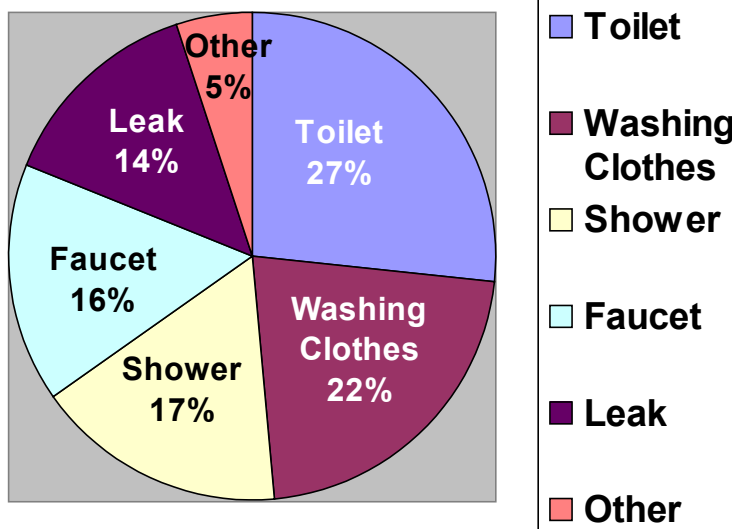
- ✓ Run dishwashers and washing machines with a full load only.

- ✓ Don't leave the water running when brushing your teeth, washing your hands, shaving or doing dishes.

- ✓ Use the wastebasket, not the toilet to dispose of trash.
- ✓ Consider buying a low-flush toilet, it uses only 1.6 gallons per flush.



How Much Water Do We Use?



Source: American Water Works Association Research Foundation, "Residential End Uses of Water," 1999.

Why Conserve?

On average, each American uses 60 gallons of water every day. You can reduce your water use by as much as 30% if you are efficient and conserve.

Saves money – By conserving, you can save on your water and other utility bills, sewer and septic costs.

Saves energy – You'll save energy by reducing the amount of hot water you use and by saving electricity used to pump water.

Saves the environment – Conserving water helps ease the burden on conveyance, treatment, storage and distribution facilities.

How much do you use?

Household faucet 3-5 gallons per minute
 Shower.....5-10 gallons per minute
 Tub bath.....50 gallons, if full
 Toilet flushing.....5-7 gallons per flush
 Dishwasher.....15-25 gallons per load
 Washing Machine.....35 gallons
 Lawn watering.....35 gallons per ½ acre

For additional information, visit www.H2ouse.org.