



Water Saving Tip Sheet

Saving Water Indoors

- Turn off faucets when they are not in direct use. Don't let the water run while you are brushing your teeth, cleaning dishes, or washing your hands.
- Take shorter showers.
- Identify and repair dripping or leaking faucets and pipes.
- Run only full loads in the dish or clothes washer.
- When replacing appliances, consider the water usage listed on replacement appliances when making your purchase.

Saving Water Outdoors

- Water your lawn only 1 inch a week, except when it is unusually hot.
 - *Note: A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on the grass. If it springs up it does not need water. If it stays flat, it's thirsty*
- Deep soak your lawn. Deep soaking allows the moisture to soak down to the.
- Water early in the morning when it is coolest to avoid evaporation.
- Don't water the pavement.
- Use rain collection barrels to collect runoff water from your gutters for reuse in gardening and landscaping. These are available in many home improvement retail stores.
- Consider landscaping options that require less or no water.

Water Use Efficiency Comparisons

	Inefficient Use	Efficient Use
Shower	Older style showerheads, 8 minutes: 24-40 gallons	2 gallon-per-minute low flow showerheads, 5 minutes: 10 gallons
Brushing Teeth	Tap running: 2-5 gallons	Wet brush, rinse: 1/8 gallon
Bath tub	Full tub: 36 gallons	Minimal water level: 10 gallons
Shaving	Tap running: 5-15 gallons	Tap off, quick rinse: 2 gallons
Washing Dishes	Tap running: 25 gallons	Tap off while washing, sink 1/2 full, w/ rinse bowl: 5 gallons
Car Washing	Tap running: 50-100 gallons	Bucket/hose rinse, shut off nozzle: 10 gallons
Washing Hands	Tap running: 2-3 gallons	Tap off while washing: 1/4 gallons
Toilet Flushing	Older style tank: 3-7 gallons	Ultra low-flush toilet: 1.6 gallons
Washing Machine	Older Style: 40 gallons	Efficient: 25 gallons
Automatic Dishwasher	Full Cycle: 25 gallons	Short Cycle: 12 gallons

For more comprehensive info on residential water conservation strategies click on <http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes/ConserveWater.htm>