

**20 WAYS TO BE WATER SMART**

1. Replace older toilets with new low flow models. This can reduce your water usage in the bathroom by over 50%. Some toilets now have duel flush controls.
2. Check for toilet leaks. If you can't replace your toilet with a new low flow model, be sure to check for leaks on a regular basis. You can easily lose 15 gallons a day to a leaky toilet. Put food coloring in your tank and wait half an hour. If the color makes it to the bowl, you have a leak!
3. Use a water displacement device in your toilet tanks. Something as simple as placing a one liter bottle full of gravel in your toilet tank can save you gallons per day (one liter per flush).



*Conservation Corner*

4. Install water saving showerheads. You used to give up water pressure on low flow showerheads but not anymore.
5. Reduce shower time. You can save over 2 gallons of water per minute by reducing the length of your shower.
6. Fix leaky faucets. A leaking faucet can easily waste 10 gallons per day.
7. Install low flow aerators. They are inexpensive and save gallons of water per day.
8. Fill a glass with water to brush your teeth. By using a glass you do not let the water faucet run. Wet your toothbrush in the glass, then use the water to rinse.
9. Don't let the water run while you are washing your hands. Either turn the water off while washing your hands or plug the sink and fill it with only the amount of water that you will use.
10. Modern dishwashers are efficient. Even your older dishwashers didn't use as much water per dish as hand washing can. Newer models use less water and require less pre-rinsing. Oh yeah and it will save you up to 200 hours of your time each year.
11. Washing dishes by hand. If you do wash your dishes by hand, fill up one sink with soapy water to wash and the other with clean water to rinse.
12. Clean your drive or sidewalk with a broom or blower. Using water to hose off your drive can waste hundreds of gallons of water.
13. Do not water your lawn on windy days. Depending on the wind speed and droplet size, you can lose over 70% of the water to evaporation.
14. Don't over water. It is more likely that you will kill a plant by overwatering than by under watering.
15. Use drip systems. Upgrade your flower bed with a drip irrigation system. This will cut down on evaporation and deliver the water to the desired plant more effectively.



16. Water lawns in the early morning hours. Waste from evaporation will be at a minimum at this time of day.
17. Sprinkler head adjustment. Be sure that you are watering the desired plants or lawn and not driveways, sidewalks and roads.
18. Sprinklers. Use a sprinkler head that throws large drops of water. You will experience less evaporation with larger drops.
19. Rain water capture. Rainwater capturing is becoming more and more common and in some places it is actually required in new developments. You can capture up to 0.60 gallons of water per square foot of roof from a 1 inch rain. A typical 1,500 square foot home can easily produce 900 gallons of water per inch of rain.

20. The car wash is your friend. This will save you water and time. A commercial car wash typically uses about 35 gallons of water per wash. Washing the car at home without a nozzle can use hundreds of gallons.