

EVERY DROP COUNTS

Free and Low-Cost Ways to Save Water and Energy in Your Home



SHOWERS



- **Reducing your shower time** from 10 minutes to **5 minutes** can save up to 13 gallons per shower.
- A **low-flow showerhead (1.5 gpm)** can reduce water waste by up to 20 gallons per shower, compared to older style showerheads.

BATH TUBS



- **Stopper the tub** before running water to save 5 gallons per minute.
- **Filling the tub 1/3 full**, instead of 2/3 full, will reduce water and energy costs by half.
- **Consider showering instead.** A 5-minute shower uses about 13 gallons, but a bath takes up to 70.

TOILETS



- Flush solids each use, but **flush liquids every third use** and save about 7 gallons.
- **Fixing leaks** from a toilet flapper can save 73,000 gallons per year.

FAUCETS



- **Repair leaky faucets.** A leak of 1 drop per second wastes over 2,080 gallons per year.
- **Aerators** will help reduce your water heating cost and can save a gallon per minute or more.
- **Keep a pitcher** of drinking water in the refrigerator, instead of running tap water until it gets cool.
- Use a **partially-filled sink** to wash fruits and veggies, then rinse, rather than running water continuously.

TOOTH BRUSHING



- **Turn off faucet** while you brush your teeth to save over 5 gallons every 3 minutes.
- **Use a cup** to rinse, instead of running water.

SHAVING



- **Use water only** to wet your face and to rinse and **turn off faucet** while shaving.
- **Gather water in bottom of sink** to rinse the razor instead of running the tap at 1.5 gallons per minute.

HAND DISHWASHING



- **Soak** dried-on food, rather than scraping under running water.
- **Use a basin** to rinse dishes, rather than running water.

DISHWASHER



- **Wash only full loads** instead of partial loads.
- **Skip pre-rinsing** dirty dishes under running water to save up to 2.5 gallons per minute.
- **Scrape your dishes** instead of rinsing them.

CLOTHES WASHER



- **Wash only full loads** instead of partial loads.
- **Use the shortest cycle** needed to properly wash the type of load you are doing.
- **Washing with cold water** when possible reduces water heating cost.

GARDENING



- **Water your lawn** before 6 a.m. and after 10 p.m. to reduce evaporation by 60%.
- **Step on your lawn** before watering. If the grass springs back, it does not need watering yet.
- **Use mulch** around trees and plants to save up to 30 gallons of water a day per 1,000 square feet.
- If you have an **automatic watering controller**, adjust the watering times to match the climate, and turn it off during the winter rainy season.

OUTDOOR WATER



- **Using a self-closing nozzle** for your hose saves 8-10 gallons per minute.
- **Recycle indoor water** to use outdoors by catching running water from your faucet or tub spout.
- **Use a pitcher** to capture half full water glasses and bottles to use on outdoor plants.
- **Use a bucket of water** to wash your car and bike, then rinse quickly with a self-closing nozzle. Save up to 80 gallons of water each time.
- **Sweep** sidewalks and driveways, instead of hosing them off.