



WATER. TOO PRECIOUS TO WASTE.

INDOORS

Typical Indoor Water use for a family of four:

- Toilet flushing 40%
- Showers and baths 32%
- Laundry 14%
- Dishwashing 6%
- Cooking and drinking 5%
- Bathroom sink 3%

Source: Plain Talk About Drinking Water, 3rd Edition, Dr. James M. Symons

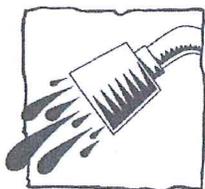
10 Tips for Efficient Indoor Water Use

Toilets account for the largest percentage of indoor water use.



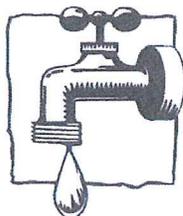
- ① Check for toilet leaks by placing a dye tablet or food coloring in the tank and looking for the color to appear in the bowl. Toilet leaks can be silent wasters of more than 50 gallons of water per day.
- ② Use less water per flush by installing a low flow toilet or by putting something in the toilet tank to take up space, such as a jar or plastic bag of water.
- ③ Don't use the toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. Each cigarette butt, tissue or bug you flush wastes 5 to 7 gallons of water.

Showers and baths are the second largest indoor use of water.



- ④ Take shorter showers and save as much as 5-10 gallons per minute.
- ⑤ Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.

In the kitchen and laundry:



- ⑥ Wash full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher.
- ⑦ When washing dishes by hand or cleaning vegetables, don't leave the faucet running.
- ⑧ Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator to avoid running gallons of water down the drain to get a cold drink.
- ⑨ Install a water saving faucet aerator.
- ⑩ Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Even the smallest drip can waste 20 gallons per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.

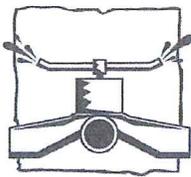


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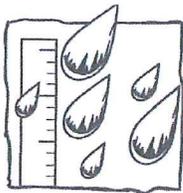
OUTDOORS

10 Tips for Efficient Outdoor Water Use

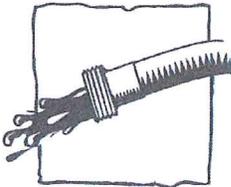
In the summer, 50-70% of a typical water bill is for outdoor use. Overwatering is the number one waste of water during the summer, and the leading cause of plant disease and insect problems. Here are some tips for watering efficiently and preventing waste.



- ① Water in the evening or early morning to minimize waste to evaporation. Mornings are usually less windy.
- ② Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering the street and sidewalk, and use a timer to avoid forgetting to turn sprinklers off.
- ③ Use sprinklers that throw big drops of water close to the ground. Small drops and mist often evaporate before reaching the ground.



- ④ Measure water applied to lawn to apply 1" of water per week.
- ⑤ Check the soil 2-4" deep to see when your lawn needs watering.
- ⑥ Set mower blades to 1 ½ -2 inches and keep them sharp to cut grass cleanly. Longer grass loses less water to evaporation.



- ⑦ Use a broom, not a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- ⑧ Use a bucket and automatic shut-off nozzle to wash cars. Washing your car on the grass will water the lawn at the same time.
- ⑨ Check outdoor faucets, pipes and hoses for leaks.
- ⑩ Install a water-efficient drip irrigation system for trees and shrubs.

Free water conservation devices are available at the Public Works office at 1900 W. 6th Street, while supplies last. To help save water outdoors: Rain gauges to measure how much water sprinkler apply and Master Gardeners information about water needs of grass and plants. For indoor conservation: Reduced flow faucet aerators, and toilet leak detection kits, flappers and tank displacement devices.