

CONSERVATION TIPS

Here's how you can make a difference:

In The Kitchen:

- Install faucet aerators to reduce water consumption.
- Use a dishpan for washing and rinsing dishes. Scrape dishes rather than rinsing before washing.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a partially filled sink or pan instead of running water from the tap.
- Don't use running water to thaw food.
- Operating appliances (dishwashers and clothes washers) when full can save up to 600 gallons each month. Newer water-efficient washing machines can save up to 20 gallons per load.
- Front loading clothes washers use 1/2 the water, 1/3 less detergent and 1/3 less energy than top loading machines.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator rather than running the faucet for cool water on a hot day.
- Designate one glass for your drinking glass each day. You'll run your dishwasher less often.

In The Bathroom:

- Replace old toilets and showerheads with low-flow fixtures if your home was built before 1992. Switching to water-efficient fixtures can save the average household several dollars on water and sewer bills.
- Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints. You may save 20 gallons of water per day for every leak that is fixed.
- Shorten your showers. Even a one or two minute reduction may save up to 700 gallons of water per month.
- Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. You may save 400 to 600 gallons of water per month.
- Test toilets for leaks. Add a few drops of food coloring or a dye tablet in the tank, but do not flush the toilet. If the coloring appears in the toilet bowl, the toilet has a silent leak.
- Turning the water off when brushing your teeth, shaving, and washing hands can save approximately 4 gallons a minute or 200 gallons a week for a family of four.
- Insulate all hot water pipes to reduce the delays (and wasted water) while waiting for the water to heat up.

Outside:

- Water plants during early morning or evening hours to minimize evaporation.
- Install a watering timer with automatic shut-off or use your kitchen timer to notify you when to shut off your sprinklers.
- Using an automatic shut-off nozzle on your hose while washing your car may save more than 100 gallons of water.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- Check outdoor faucets, pipes, and hoses for leaks. Repair any leaks as soon as possible.
- Only water your lawn when needed.
- Use the water from cleaning your fish tank on your plants.
- Know where your shut off valves are located before an emergency occurs. This could save several gallons of water and possible damage to your home if a pipe were to burst.