

Water Conservation Tips



Don't be a drip.

Toilets, Showers, Laundry and Dishes

- On average, 10 gallons per day of your water footprint (or 14% of your indoor use) is lost to leaks. **SAVE** – repair leaky faucets and toilets.
 - If you use a low-flow showerhead, you can save 15 gallons of water during a 10 minute shower.
 - It takes about 70 gallons of water to fill a bathtub, so showers are generally the more water-efficient way to bathe.
- If you still have a standard toilet, which uses close to 3.5 gallons a flush, you can save by retrofitting or filling your tank with something that will displace some of that water, such as a brick
 - Most front-loading machines are energy- and water-efficient, using just over 20 gallons a load, while most top-loading machines, unless they are energy-efficient, use 40 gallons per load.
 - Nearly 22% of indoor home water use comes from doing laundry. Save water by making sure to adjust the settings on your machine to the proper load size.
 - Dishwashing is a relatively small part of your water footprint – less than 2% of indoor use – but there are always ways to conserve. Using a machine is actually more water efficient than hand washing if you run full loads.

Yards and Pools

- Nearly 60% of a person's household water footprint can go toward lawn and garden maintenance
- The average pool takes 22,000 gallons of water to fill, and if you don't cover it, hundreds of gallons of water per month can be lost due to evaporation.

Recycling

- One of the best ways to conserve water is to buy recycled goods, and to recycle your stuff when you're done with it.
- Recycling a pound of paper, less than the weight of your average newspaper, saves about 3.5 gallons of water. Buying recycled paper products saves water too, as it takes about six gallons of water to produce a dollar worth of paper.
- It takes about 100 gallons of water to grow and process a single pound of cotton, and the average American goes through about 35 pounds of new cotton material each year.