



Water Conservation Tips

An average home uses more than 200 gallons of water per day

- **Clothes washer** - 21.7% of water use; 56,000 gallons/year
 - Operate only full loads and/or use correct volume settings
 - Consider replacement - old washers use approximately 41 gallons per load, while new high-efficiency machines use only 23 gallons.
- **Dishwasher** - 1.4% of water use; 3600 gallons/year
 - Wash full loads
 - Consider replacement - reduce by 30-50% water usage per load
- **Faucet** - 16% of water use; 35,000 gallons/year
 - Turn off the water running while brushing teeth, shaving, or washing
 - Catch "warm-up" water and use for plants
 - Consider installing low flow restrictors/aerators to faucets (\$2-4)
- **Irrigation systems** - seasonally highest domestic use; up to 100,000 gallons/year or more
 - Lawns need only 1 inch of water per week, and they don't need to be watered daily; overwatering causes 85% of turf problems
 - Water at night, if possible, to reduce evapotranspiration
 - Upgrade your sprinkler clock
 - Install a rain shutoff device
 - Collect rainwater with a rain bucket or cistern system with drip lines
 - Convert turf to low water-use landscaping such as drought resistant grass, plants, shrubs and trees
- **Showerhead** - 16% of water use; 37,000 gallons/year
 - Take shorter showers (typical shower lasts 8 minutes and uses 17 gallons; an efficient shower lasts 3 or 4 minutes and uses 7.5 gallons)
- **Leaks** 14% of water use; 30,000 gallons/year
 - Check for and repair toilet leaks - will waste from 30 to 500 gallons of water per day
 - Fix faucet leaks (usually a washer will work) - a gradual dripping faucet can leak up to 5 gallons of water per day
 - Irrigation systems typically leak 20-40%
- **Toilet** - 27% of water use; 60,000 gallons/year
 - Offset older toilets with a plastic jug of pebbles and water to minimize flushing
 - Flush less frequently