

Helpful conservation tips for customers of



15 Things You Can Do To Save Water

Make water conservation part of your daily routine! We've become accustomed to turning on the faucet and having water flow effortlessly and endlessly. But water is a limited resource, and our drinking water supply is vulnerable to droughts that can rapidly deplete full reservoirs. That's why wise water use is so important. Follow these tips to reduce water use, and remember to make conservation a year 'round effort!

- 1 Check toilets for leaks.** Put food coloring in your toilet tank and wait ten minutes without flushing. If the color appears in the bowl, you have a leak. You may be wasting 100 gallons a day.
- 2 Replace your old toilet with a low-flow toilet.** Ultra-low flow toilets use about 1.28 gallons per flush and can save up to 10,000 gallons annually for a family of four.
- 3 Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket or ash-tray.** Every cigarette or tissue you flush wastes 1.6 to 7 gallons.
- 4 Put a plastic bottle in the toilet tank (if you don't have a low-flow toilet).** Put an inch of sand in a quart bottle to weigh it down. Fill the rest with water and put it in your tank, away from the operating mechanism. In the average home, this may save three or more gallons each day.
- 5 Take short showers.** Keep showers under five minutes to save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
- 6 Install water-saving showerheads.** High quality water-saver showerheads provide luxurious showers, yet use no more than 2.5 gallons per minute and can save up to 750 gallons per month.
- 7 Take baths instead of showers.** A partially-filled tub uses less water than all but the shortest shower.
- 8 Check pipes for leaks.** A small drip can waste 50 gallons a day!
- 9 Turn off the water while brushing teeth or shaving.** A family of four can save as much as 200 gallons a week.
- 10 Wash only full loads in automatic washing machines and save up to 600 gallons per month.**
- 11 Capture the water that runs while you wait for hot water.** Use it to water plants, or put it in the refrigerator so you can have nice, *cold* water whenever you want it.
- 12 Turn off water while cleaning vegetables.** Rinse them in a half-filled sink to save as much as two gallons per minute.
- 13 Keep drinking water in the refrigerator.** Stop the wasteful practice of running the tap to cool water.
- 14 If washing dishes by hand, don't leave the water running.** A running faucet uses two gallons per minute. If you have two sinks, fill one with rinse water. If you only have one, put clean dishes in a rack, then rinse with a sprayer or pan of water.
- 15 Check faucets for leaks, which waste water 24 hours a day.** An inexpensive washer can usually stop leaks.