

Water Conservation Tips

- **Turn off** water while brushing teeth or while shaving.
- **Keep a container of water in the refrigerator** instead of running the faucet to get a cold drink.



- **Showers use more water than baths.** It takes about 70 gallons of water to fill a bathtub. A 15-minute shower, with a reduced flow showerhead, only uses 38 gallons. If there are 4 people in your family taking baths, and they all switch to 10-minute showers, you could save around 5,000 gallons of water a month, or \$37.00. That is over \$400/ a year in savings.

- Scrape dishes clean to limit pre-rinsing. Soak really dirty pans before washing. **Limit dishwasher use to full loads.** Energy Star dishwashers use about 4-gallons per load, standard dishwashers use about 6-gallons, and hand washing uses at least 20-gallonsof water each time.



- **Use a shut-off nozzle** and wash your car in small sections. Wash car on grass to in order to water the lawn, while washing car. A hose running can use 25-gallons of water per minute, so make sure your hose has a shut-off valve.
- Twice yearly, **check faucets indoors and out.** Replace worn-out fixtures, washers, and hose connections. Turn faucets off firmly.
- **Plant water-saving plants, trees, and shrubs** – particularly native species. Mulch to retain water. Replace lawn with plants or bark. Sweep outdoor porches and decks with a broom instead of using a hose to clean them.



- **Water lawns slowly, thoroughly, and infrequently.** Water in early A.M. to reduce evaporation. Install a drip system and automatic timer.

- **Cover your pool or spa to reduce evaporation.** Avoid overflows and splashes by reducing water levels.



- When it's time to replace your washing machine, **install a high-efficiency washer.** Conventional washers built before 2011, use about 40-gallons of water per load. High-efficiency washers use as little as 15-gallons per load.

- **Replace toilets installed before 1994 with high-efficiency toilets.** Some older toilets use up to 7-gallons of water per flush. A new, high-efficiency model uses only 1.28 gallons per flush. If a toilet is flushed an average of 8 times per day, a toilet upgrade can save \$125/year. A leaking toilet can waste up to a gallon of water per minute, which equates to over \$300.00 in one month.

