

Indoor Water Saving Tip Sheet

In the Bathroom

- ◆ Install a low flow or trickle valve shower head.
- ◆ Take a five minute (or less) shower. Saves 12.5 gallons with a water efficient showerhead per shower.
- ◆ In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather up; then turn back on to rinse off.
- ◆ Turn off water while brushing your teeth, shaving, and lathering your hands in the sink. Saves 10 gallons per person per day.
- ◆ Use a bucket to recycle indoor water and use for plants. Saves gallons of water each month.
- ◆ Check for and repair leaks in the tub diverter valve.
- ◆ Install aerators on bathroom faucets and save 1.2 gallons per person per day.
- ◆ Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the toilet bowl within 30 minutes.
- ◆ Install high-efficiency toilets. Saves 19 gallons per person/day.
- ◆ Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Adopt the adage, "if it's yellow let it mellow and if it's brown flush it down."
- ◆ Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers.

In the Laundry

- ◆ Install water-efficient clothes washer.
- ◆ Operate the washer with full loads only – even if the machine has an adjustable load setting.
- ◆ Check your clothes washer hoses regularly for cracks that could result in leaks.
- ◆ If your washer has a variable water volume setting, select the minimum amount required per load.
- ◆ Use the shortest wash cycle for lightly soiled loads.

In the Kitchen

- ◆ Place a large bucket in the sink when washing dishes or vegetables to collect excess water.
- ◆ When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- ◆ Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden or for cleaning.
- ◆ Run the dishwasher only when full.
- ◆ Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- ◆ Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't let the tap run while you are waiting for cool water to flow. Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap.
- ◆ Install faucet aerators on sink faucets to reduce flow to 1 gallon/minute.
- ◆ Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing of food waste.
- ◆ Use the water-level settings for the most efficient run on your dishwasher.
- ◆ Consider installing an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up. This will reduce water heating costs for your household.
- ◆ Install a water and energy-efficient dishwasher.
- ◆ Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster and avoid wasting water while it heats up.