



## **Water Conservation Guidelines**

1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Evaporative coolers require a seasonal maintenance checkup. For more efficient cooling, check your evaporative cooler annually.
3. Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when they are full and you could save 1,000 gallons a month.
4. Install covers on pools and spas to avoid water evaporation.
5. Use the garbage disposal less often.
6. Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
7. Check your water meter and bill to track your water usage.
8. Wash your produce in the sink or a pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap.
9. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk and save up to 80 gallons of water every time.
10. If your showerhead can fill a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, then replace it with a water-efficient showerhead.
11. When you shop for a new appliance, keep in mind that one offering several different cycles will be more water and energy-efficient.
12. Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
13. Install low-volume toilets.
14. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the bowl, you have a leak. It's easy to fix and can save more than 600 gallons a month.

15. Plug the bathtub before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.
16. Designate one glass for your drinking water each day. This will cut down on the number of times you run your dishwasher.
17. Don't use running water to thaw food.
18. Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and can save 140 gallons a week.
19. When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
20. Teach your children to turn the faucets off tightly after each use.
21. Before you lather up, install a low-flow showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save your family more than 500 gallons a week.
22. Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
23. Make sure you know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save gallons of water and damage to your home if a pipe were to burst.
24. Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.
25. Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save 4 gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons each week for a family of four.
26. Make sure your toilet flapper doesn't stick open after flushing.
27. Make sure there are aerators on all of your faucets.
28. Install an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up. This will also reduce heating costs for your household.
29. Bathe your young children together.
30. Insulate hot water pipes so you don't have to run as much water to get hot water to the faucet.

31. Drop that tissue in the trash instead of flushing it and save gallons every time.
32. Install a toilet dam or bottle filled with water in your toilet tank to cut down on the amount of water used for each flush. Be sure these devices do not interfere with operating parts.
33. Install water softening systems only when necessary. Save water and salt by running the minimum number of regenerations necessary to maintain water softness.
34. Turn your water softeners off while you're on vacation.
35. Cook food in as little water as possible. This will also retain more of the nutrients.
36. If it takes you more than a few minutes to shampoo and condition your hair, turn off the faucet while you work each in, then back on to rinse.
37. Bathe your pets outdoors in an area in need of water.
38. Choose new water-saving appliances, like washing machines that save up to 20 gallons per load.
39. Select the proper size pans for cooking. Large pans require more cooking water than may be necessary.