

Water is a precious commodity ... let's make every drop count!



Smart Tips for the Home & Yard

TIPS IN THE BATHROOM

Replace your showerhead with a water-efficient model and save up to 6 gallons per minute.

Replace your old toilet with a water-efficient toilet and save as much as 5 gallons per flush. If you cannot replace your existing old toilet, install a toilet displacement device such as a bottle filled with water.

Pay attention to dripping sounds and repair toilet leaks. If you hear a dripping sound, add a few drops of food color to the tank but do not flush the toilet. If coloring appears in the bowl, the toilet has a leak that needs to be repaired.

Take showers using a water-efficient showerhead instead of a bath and get into the shower right away after the water becomes hot enough for bathing.

Fill the sink with hot water when shaving instead of letting the water run continuously.

TIPS IN THE KITCHEN

Only run the dishwasher with a full load. High-efficiency dishwashers can save 3 to 6 gallons per load over older models.

Install faucet aerators to restrict the flow. You can cut your sink water consumption in half and not notice the difference.

Keep drinking water in a container in the refrigerator instead of running water from the faucet until it is cool.

Repair leaking faucets promptly as they can waste lots of water.

TIPS IN THE LAUNDRY ROOM

Wash only full loads and save up to 55 gallons per load. If you have to wash partial loads, match the load setting on the washing machine to the amount of laundry to be washed.

Water Conservation

TIPS FOR THE YARD

Don't overwater your yard. One inch of water per week in the summer will keep most types of grass healthy. To determine how long you need to run your sprinkler to provide 1" of water, place straight edged cans at different distances from your sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill an average of 1" of water in each can.

Water occasionally, but deeply, to make every gallon count. Making sure water penetrates deep into the ground will encourage healthier roots, allowing turf to last longer between waterings. Infrequent but regular deep watering will guide roots farther into the soil, where they can seek out moisture.

Don't abuse the benefits of an automatic sprinkler system by overwatering. Install rain shutoff devices and adjust sprinklers to eliminate spraying on roadways, driveways, or sidewalks.

Use drip irrigation systems in shrubbery beds and around trees to prevent loss of irrigation through evaporation.

Cover pools and spas when not in use to prevent evaporation.

Use lots of mulch around trees and shrubs to retain moisture, reduce run-off, and help with weed control.

Plant drought-resistant grasses, trees and plants. Many beautiful grasses, trees, and plants thrive with far less watering than other species.

Use a pail of soapy water to wash your car instead of letting the hose water run. Limit hose use to just wetting and rinsing the car.

Adjust lawn mowers to a higher setting. Longer grass blades shade each other and hold moisture longer. Keep your mower blade sharp and mulch grass clippings instead of bagging them.

Do not overfertilize your lawn as an overfertilized lawn will require more water and frequent mowing.

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