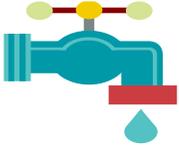


# WATER USE FACT SHEET



## INDOOR

- Water use in the home occurs:
  - Bathroom-75%
  - Kitchen-8%
  - Laundry-14%
- During the winter months, 90% or more of household water use occurs inside the home.
- The average person uses 50 gallons of water per day on the following activities:
  - Toilet-19 gallons per day
  - Bathing & hygiene-15 gallons per day
  - Laundry-8 gallons per day
  - Kitchen-7 gallons per day
  - Housekeeping-1 gallon per day
- A water faucet left running can use:
  - Shaving: 20 gallons of water
  - Brushing Teeth: 10 gallons of water
  - Washing Hands: 2 gallons
- Turn off the water while shaving and save more than 100 gallons of water per week.
- **SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION STEP:** installing a low-flow showerhead which uses only 2.5 gallons of water per minute (gpm) compared to 3-5 (gpm) for older showerheads.
- Low flow showerheads can save you 500 gallons of water per week.
- If your shower is under 5 minutes, you can save up to 1000 gallons of water per month.
- A continuous shower requires up to 12 gallons of water per minute.
- Wetting down, soaping up, and rinsing off rapidly uses only 4 gallons of water.
- A full bathtub uses 36 gallons of water.
- Water at a minimum level in a bath uses only 10-12 gallons of water.
- Automatic dishwashers use up to 16 gallons of water vs. washing dishes by hand in a sink or dishpan requires only 5 gallons of water.
- Toilet water use can be cut from 5 gallons per flush (gpf) to 1.6 gpf by installing water efficient or air assisted commodes.
- Wash clothes only when you have a full load and save up to 600 gallons of water per month.



## OUTDOOR

- In the summer, lawn watering and other outdoor uses account for up to 80% of home water use.
- At standard household water pressures, a garden hose will discharge up to 6.5 gallons of water per minute.
- To apply an inch of water to 1,000 square feet of lawn or garden requires 620 gallons of water.
- Turning off the water while brushing teeth can save you 4 gallons of water per minute.

- Use a hose nozzle and turn off the water while you wash your car can save more than 150 gallons of water per washing.
- Fixing a leak can save 500 gallons per month.
- Plant indigenous species suited to your area and save as much as 54% of the water used to care for outdoor plants.
- Adjust sprinklers so that you are not watering pavement, gravel or direct and save up to 500 gallons of water per month.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants can save 750-1,500 gallons of water per month.
- If you have a pool, use a pool cover to cut down on evaporation and save 1,000 gallons of water per month.
- Water during the cooler parts of the day (early morning, late evening) will save 300 gallons of water.
- Xeriscaping your yard can save 750-1,500 gallons of water per month.
- Cut down watering on cool and overcast days and don't water in the rain can save 300 gallons per time.



For more information, you can log onto:

<http://www.h2ouse.org/tour/index.cfm>