

BE WATER WISE

15 TIPS TO SAVE WATER

SIMPLE (Anyone can do it!)

1 Shorten shower time

Aim for shorter showers to minimize water usage. Consider installing a shower timer or using a water-efficient nozzle to further reduce water consumption.

2 Turn the tap off

When brushing your teeth or washing your face, turn the tap off, instead of letting it run. You can also apply this suggestion for hand washing dishes.

3 Recycle water for plants

Instead of dumping water down the sink, recycle it to water your plants. For example, keep leftover cooking water and stale water when refreshing your drinking bottles.

4 Showers over baths

Typically, a five minute shower uses around 10-25 gallons of water, whereas a full bathtub uses about approximately 70 gallons of water.

5 Wash only what you need to

Be selective about what clothing needs to be washed, and get into the habit of re-wearing clothing. Not only will this save water, but it's less wear and tear on your clothing.

6 If it's yellow, let it mellow

Use this toilet practice to reduce the number of flushes, thereby reducing water usage.

7 Do full loads of laundry and dishes

Try to run full loads of laundry and dishes to conserve water, as well as energy. This minimizes the number of cycles needed, reducing overall household resource consumption. If you don't have enough dishes for a full load, consider cleaning them by hand (while not leaving the tap running).

8 Sweep instead of hosing

Instead of using a hose to clean outdoor surfaces like driveways and sidewalks, opt for a broom to sweep up debris. This simple switch can save significant amounts of water while keeping outdoor areas clean.

9 Educate and advocate

Spread awareness about the importance of water conservation in your community and encourage others to adopt water-saving practices. Advocate for sustainable water management policies and support community-based initiatives that promote water conservation and stewardship efforts.

ADVANCED (Requires extra equipment and/or knowledge)

10 Collect rainwater

Harvest rainwater by installing rain barrels or cisterns to collect runoff from your roof. This harvested water can be used for outdoor irrigation, reducing the need for potable water for gardening purposes.

11 Water wisely

Practice smart irrigation techniques by watering your lawn and garden during the early morning or late evening to minimize evaporation. Use drip irrigation systems or soaker hoses to deliver water directly to plant roots and avoid runoff. Stay up to date with local drought conditions and respect water restriction guidelines.

12 Mulch your garden

Apply a layer of mulch around plants and trees to retain soil moisture and suppress weed growth. Mulching helps conserve water by reducing evaporation from the soil surface and promoting healthier plant growth.

13 Install water-saving fixtures

Upgrade your home with water-efficient fixtures such as low-flow toilets, aerated faucets, and efficient showerheads. These fixtures can significantly reduce water consumption.

14 Fix leaks

Leaky faucets, toilets, and pipes can waste hundreds of gallons of water each month. Regularly check for leaks and promptly repair them to prevent water wastage.

15 Use native plants

Choose drought-tolerant native plants for your landscaping to minimize water requirements. Native plants are adapted to local climate conditions and often require less water and maintenance compared to exotic species. Find out your local plant hardiness zone and grow plants that thrive in your local zone.

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