

## Kitchen



- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Dishwashers typically use less water than washing dishes by hand. Now, Energy Star dishwashers save even more water and energy.
- If your dishwasher is new, cut back on rinsing. Newer models clean more thoroughly than older ones.
- Designate one glass for your drinking water each day, or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Instead, compost vegetable food waste and save gallons every time.
- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
- Don't use running water to thaw food. For water efficiency and food safety, defrost food in the refrigerator.
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.
- Cook food in as little water as possible. This also helps it retain more nutrients.
- If you accidentally drop ice cubes, don't throw them in the sink. Drop them in a house plant instead.
- Collect the water you use while rinsing fruit and vegetables. Use it to water house

## General

- Teach children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
- When the kids want to cool off, use the sprinkler in an area where your lawn needs it most.
- Play fun games while learning how to save water.
- Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
- Learn how to use your water meter to check for leaks.
- Avoid recreational water toys that require a constant flow of water.
- Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and you can save 140 gallons a week.
- Be a leak detective! Check all hoses, connectors, and faucets regularly for leaks.



Thank You

## Water Conservation Tips



By

Ann Morningstar



Saving water starts with you. Examine how you use water, and follow a few tips. First of all, any water that drops down the drain is a waste. For example, waiting until the water is hot to wash your hands. Plug the drain and save the water.

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## Bathroom

### House Hold Tips



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- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean
- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap
- If you accidentally drop ice cubes, don't throw them in the sink. Drop them in a house plant instead.
- Collect the water you use while rinsing fruit and vegetables. Use it to water house plants.

### Laundry Room

- When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
- Washing dark clothes in cold water saves water and energy, and helps your clothes retain their color.
- If clothing is not smelly or dirty wear another time before washing. Saves garment ware and water.
- Have a plumber re-route your grey water to trees and plants rather than the sewer line. Check with your city and county for codes.

- If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a WaterSense® labeled model.
  - Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
  - Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
  - Toilet leaks can be silent! Be sure to test your toilet for leaks at least once a year.
    - Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the bowl without flushing, there's a leak. Fix it and start saving gallons.
  - When running a bath, plug the bathtub before turning on the water. Adjust the temperature as the tub fills.
  - If your toilet flapper doesn't close properly after flushing, replace it.
  - Use a WaterSense® labeled showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
  - Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save up to 4 gallons a minute. That's up to 200 gallons a week for a family of four.
  - Plug the sink instead of running the water to rinse your razor and save up to 300 gallons a month.
  - Turn off the water while washing your hair and save up to 150 gallons a month.
  - When washing your hands, turn the water off while you lather.
  - Install water-saving aerators on all of your faucets.
  - Drop tissues in the trash instead of flushing them and save water every time.
  - One drip every second adds up to five gallons per day! Check your faucets and showerheads for leaks.
  - While you wait for hot water, collect the running water and use it to water plants.



### Garden and Landscaping

- Pull all weeds they take water from the plants you want to water.
- Mulch and cover with tarps (not plastic) to keep the water in.
- Cover walkways in gardens with tarps or heavy layer of hay and keep the water in.
- Group plants with the same watering needs together to avoid over-watering some while under watering others.
- Reduce the amount of lawn in your yard by planting shrubs and ground covers appropriate to your site and region
- Plant species native to your region.
- Plant in the spring and fall, when the watering requirements are lower.
- Avoid planting grass in areas that are hard to water, such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways.
- Start a compost pile. Using compost in your garden or flower beds adds water-holding organic matter to the soil.
- Collect water from your roof by installing gutters and downspouts. Direct the runoff to plants and trees.
- Use automatic watering system that waters at night.
- Water for two or three times at night.
- Adjust your lawn mower to the height of 1.5 to 2 inches. Taller grass shades roots and holds soil moisture