

## Water Saving Tips

### OUTDOOR

- Adjust sprinkler run-time minutes to avoid run-off. If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.
- Irrigate landscaping between sunset and sunrise by resetting watering timer.
- Inspect all irrigations systems, repair leaks, and adjust spray heads to provide optimum coverage and eliminate overspray.
- Wash vehicles by putting the water in a bucket and then use a hose with a shut-off nozzle for a quick rinse.
- Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and reduces weeds, thereby saving water.
- Use a broom or rake rather than water to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios.
- Check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
- Check the root zone of your lawn or garden for moisture before watering by using a spade or trowel. If it's still moist two inches under the soil surface, no watering is needed.
- Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant and save up to 550 gallons each year.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.
- Avoid recreational water toys that require a constant flow of water.
- Wash your pets outdoors in an area of your lawn that needs water.
- When you give your pet fresh water, don't throw the old water down the drain. Use it to water your trees or shrubs.
- Water only when necessary. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering.

## INDOOR

- Only run dishwashers and washing machines when there is a full load.
- Never put water down the drain when you can use it for purposes such as watering plants or cleaning.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily.
- 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.
- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
- If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model and use the full bucket to water your plants.
- Limit shower time to five minutes thereby saving up to 150 gallons per month for every minute reduced.
- When running a bath, rather than running the water down the drain until the water is warm, consider plugging the tub before turning the water on, and then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.
- 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.
- Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.
- When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
- Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Make sure there are water-saving aerators on all of your faucets.
- Bathe your young children together.
- Listen for dripping faucets and running toilets. Fixing water leaks can save 300 gallons a month or more.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly to run less water. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.
- Do not run water needlessly such as when brushing teeth, washing dishes by hand or shaving.

