

WATER / SEWER UTILITY
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WATER CONSERVATION

The present need to conserve water is an important issue. To accomplish this, it is also important to know how we use water on a daily basis.

Water Use

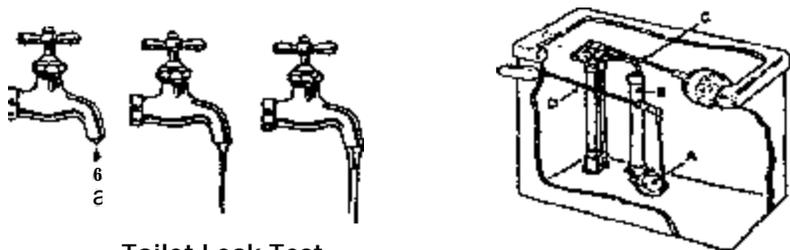
The following is a list of household appliances and their water usage.

- 1) Shower head — Uses 3 gallons per minute
- 2) Sink faucet — Uses 3 to 5 gallons per minute
- 3) Lawn sprinkler — Uses 5 gallons per minute
- 4) Toilet — Uses 5 to 7 gallons per flush
- 5) Dishwasher — Uses 25 gallons per load
- 6) Washing machine — Uses 35 gallons per load

Leak Detection

Water conservation can be accomplished by practicing the following steps toward careful use of water:

- * Take a few minutes to check for leaks in pipes and appliances around the house. Leaking faucets can waste water. A steady drip can waste 200 gallons per day. A faucet stream of 1/16" can waste 1000 gallons per day and a faucet stream of 1/8" can waste 3600 gallons per day.
- * A toilet leak is difficult to detect. One method to determine leaks is to watch the surface of the water in the bowl. If it shimmers, there is a leak.



Toilet Leak Test

Remove lid of water tank. Drop 1 dye tablet into tank. **DO NOT FLUSH!** Stir water slightly until it changes color.

Wait ten minutes. If colored water appears in the bowl, a leak is present.

Determine cause of leak and repair.

Toilet Leak Areas

- * Toilet tank flapper or ball valve (A). Clean valve seat or replace valve.
- * Water level higher than overflow pipe (B). Gently bend float arm (C) down to lower water level below top of pipe.
- * Check for corrosion of overflow pipe. Repair or replace if leaking.
- * Check trip lever and chain (D) for satisfactory closing of valve (A). Adjust if necessary.

Other methods

- * Do not run water while washing hands and face, shaving or brushing teeth.
- * Do not run water until it gets cold for drinking. Refrigerate a large bottle of water for drinking.
- * Install a flow restrictor in the shower head, or install a water conserving shower head. Showers use less water than baths.
- * Wait until dishwashers and washing machines have a full load before turning them on. Better yet, wash the dishes by hand. Use a dish pan and do not keep the water running.
- * Flush toilets only for sanitary purposes and not to get rid of cigarette butts, tissues, sanitary napkins etc.
- * Limit use of water in toilets by placing one or two plastic jugs, filled with water and capped, into the water tank.
- * Be careful not to restrict the flushing mechanism. Bricks or rocks should not be used because they may crumble and clog the piping.

Lawns

- * Lawns do not have to be watered every day. Lawn care specialists could provide the necessary information for proper lawn care. Do not water at mid-day. The water drops form tiny magnifiers on the grass resulting in burned grass. Evaporation increases at this time. Watering at night causes fungus to form on the plants. The best time to water is just after sunrise and before sunset. In most cases lawns need only to be watered once per week. Newly seeded or sodded areas would require more frequent watering.
- * After a moderate rainfall of 3/4", a typical thunderstorm, no watering should be necessary for 4 days. To apply 1" of water to 1000 square feet of lawn requires 623 gallons of water. This takes 97 minutes of watering time, using a 5/8" hose at 40 lbs. per sq. in. Water only when permitted by government regulation.

Swimming pools

- * Swimming pools do not have to be emptied each fall and filled in the spring. The average permanent, in-ground pool holds 35,000 gallons. This water can be left in the pool over the winter without ice damage to the sides of the pool. This can be accomplished by placing several wooden logs (or expansion devices) in the pool to absorb the ice expansion and cover the pool with a thermal blanket.

Save 40 Gallons Per Day

Follow the recommendations outlined in this Water Conservation Plan, and you will **SAVE 40 GALLONS OF WATER PER DAY**.....

