



### Promoting Wise Water Use

- Try to do one thing every day that will result in using water wisely. Every drop counts. And everyone, children and adults alike, can make a difference.
- Use water wisely wherever you are because it is the right thing to do! Don't waste water just because someone else is paying the bill, such as when you are staying at a hotel.
- Encourage your family, friends and neighbors to be part of a water-conscious community. Always promote wise water use in neighborhood newsletters, on bulletin boards and, most importantly, by your example.
- Think about projects that will lead to an increased use of reclaimed water for irrigation of home gardens, such as catching rain water in rain barrels or reusing the water we use to clean vegetables for meals.
- Investigate the many water-saving devices on the market today.



### The Water Cycle

The water cycle is the continuous circulation of water within Earth's hydrosphere (the water contained on, over or under the earth's surface.) Water moves from point to point in rivers, oceans, the atmosphere and in the ground by the physical processes of evaporation, precipitation, infiltration, runoff and subsurface flow. As water moves through the cycle, its nature can change among solid, liquid and gas phases.



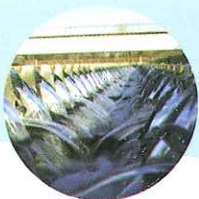
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# Be Water Wise

Water is a limited resource! In fact, the water that has been on the earth for thousands of years is the same water we use today. Each of us should take steps to protect and conserve our water resources today to ensure tomorrow's supply.





# Use Water Wisely Inside & Out



## Wise Water Use Helps:

**Save Money.** When you use water wisely, you save money on your water and sewer bills.

**Save Energy.** When you use less hot water, you save energy.

**Save the Environment.** When you use water wisely, you help ease the burden of treating, storing and distributing water. You also reduce the amount of water that is treated and returned to the watershed. This places less pressure on the environment.

**Create Awareness.** When you use water wisely, you create water conservation awareness among friends, the community, and most importantly, our children, whose legacy will be to promote a water conservation ethic.



### Food Preparation

Let frozen foods thaw in your refrigerator overnight. Wash foods in a bowl of water rather than using running water. Store a bottle of water in the refrigerator for a cold drink rather than letting the water run to get cold.

### Washing Dishes

Soak pots and pans before washing. Use a small amount of detergent so you do not have to rinse as much. Fill a sink with water to rinse dishes when you wash them by hand. If you use a dishwasher, only do full loads and use the normal cycle, which uses less water.

### Bathroom

Be mindful that the bathroom accounts for 75 percent of home water use. Take quick showers rather than baths. If you take baths, fill the tub to one-third full. Install a flow restrictor on your faucets and showerheads to deliver less water at greater pressure. Turn off water while shaving, brushing your teeth, soaping and shampooing.

Flush your toilet only when necessary and do not flush inappropriate items (such as baby wipes, paper towels, medicines, etc.). If you do not have a low-flow toilet, install a water-saving displacement device in your tank to reduce the amount of water needed to flush.

### Laundry

Be sure to have a full load of clothes before you use the washing machine. If you do not have a full load, match the water level to the amount of clothes you are washing.



### Car Washing

Consider washing your car at a car wash that recycles water or if you do wash at home, wash your vehicle on the grass with a bucket and only rinse with the hose.

### Driveways and Sidewalks

Do not use a water hose to clean dirt and leaves from the driveway or sidewalk. You can waste hundreds of gallons of water! Use a broom or leaf blower.

### Lawns and Gardens

Before watering your grass, walk on it. If the grass springs back, it doesn't need water. If it stays flat, it needs water. Then, water in the early morning or evening to avoid evaporation. Use mulch around your plants and bushes to help save moisture. Use native plants and greenery that do not require much water.

### Swimming Pools

Keep a cover on your swimming pool to prevent excess evaporation. Look into a water-saving pool filter to eliminate back washing.



### Outdoor Hoses

Regularly check your hoses, spigots and connectors for leaks. Over time, these leaks can cause you to lose hundreds of gallons of water. Do not leave hoses unattended while in use. This can also consume hundreds of gallons of water in only a few hours.