

HELPFUL HINTS FOR SAVING WATER AND REDUCING YOUR WATER BILL

Here are some helpful hints for water conservation. The average person uses 60 gallons of water per day and this does not include outside water use for car washing and watering. Here are a few easy things to do to save water.

Don't leave water running while brushing your teeth, shaving or washing dishes. A household faucet runs at 3 to 5 gallons a minute, so use a cup for brushing teeth and draw water in the sink for shaving or rinsing dishes.

Reducing the use of a garbage disposal can help save water also because you need to run water constantly while using it. Wash dishes in a fully loaded dishwasher instead of by hand. It takes less water to wash a full load in the dishwasher than it would to wash the same amount of dishes by hand.

Take a 5 minute shower instead of a tub bath. A full tub holds up to 50 gallons of water. Some people go so far as to turn off the water in the shower while they soap up and then turn it on again to rinse off.

Make sure you don't have any leaking faucets inside or outside.

Don't use your toilet as a trash can for flushing tissues or cigarettes. Each flush uses between 2 and 7 gallons of water so flushing when not necessary can use a lot of water each day. Check toilets routinely for leaks. To do this, put a few drops of food coloring in the tank of the toilet. Wait ½ to 1 hour and check the bowl. If the colored water is in the bowl you have a leak. Most of the time it is the flapper that is not sealing properly. If you know you have a leaky toilet fix it as soon as possible, it will just continue to get worse and this can use a lot of water over a two month billing cycle.

When replacing toilets, showerheads or washing machines check the amount of water that is used and buy the water saving model. The lower flow models can help you save quite a bit of water over a two month period. Also, if you have a water softener make sure it is working properly. If these malfunction they can use more water than they should. When building a new home or remodeling an older home always look for the appliances that promote water conservation.