

# Water Conservation Tips

A faucet that leaks one drop per second wastes more than 2,000 gallons of water a year.

**Turn off the tap:** Don't leave the water running when washing dishes by hand or brushing your teeth.

**Stop the leaks:** Repair any leaking faucets, pipes or toilets.

**Nuke it:** Defrost frozen food in the refrigerator or microwave instead of running hot water over it.

**Save the drain:** Dispose of toxic chemicals properly. Don't pour them down the drain. This includes Paint.

**Shower smart:** Install water saving fixtures such as ultra low consumption toilets, efficient faucets and showerheads.

**Using a trash can:** Do not throw trash into the toilet as it will result in unnecessary and wasteful toilet flushing.

**Avoid baths:** Take a quick shower instead. That saves an average of 20 gallons of water.

**Recycle:** Re-use the water that vegetables are washed in for watering house plants or for cleaning.

**Insulate water pipes:** It makes your water hotter faster and avoids the waste that comes waiting for the shower to warm up.

**Chill out:** Instead of waiting for tap water to get cold enough for drinking, keep a bottle of water in the refrigerator.

**Compost:** Don't put food scraps down the garbage disposal.

**No partial loads:** Only run your dishwasher when it is full.

Let the machine do the work: Cut down on the amount of rinsing you do before loading the dishwasher. Most modern dishwashers do an excellent job of cleaning dishes, pots and pans.

**Start early:** Water your lawn early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation. Don't water on windy days. Don't leave sprinklers unattended.

**Don't be a slave to the calendar:** Don't follow a fixed watering schedule. Water when the grass or plants show signs of needing it. To determine if your lawn needs to be watered, simply walk across the grass. If you leave footprints, it's time to water. Water in several short sessions rather than one long one.

**Cover up:** Cover swimming pools to minimize the loss of water due to evaporation.

**Use a broom:** Rather than a hose to clean sidewalks.

**Mow high:** Maintain a lawn height of 2 ½ to 3 inches to help protect the roots from heat stress and reduce the loss of moisture to evaporation.