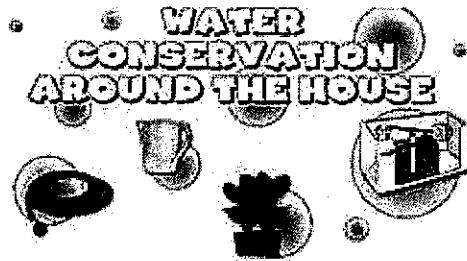












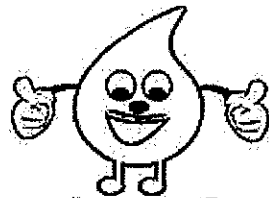
# WATER CONSERVATION

Water is a limited resource; so it is vital that we all work together to maintain it and use it wisely. When we save water, we save money on our other utility bills also. Saving water is easy for everyone to do. Here are a few tips you can follow to help conserve:

















## INDOOR WATER CONSERVATION

-  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.
-  For cold drinks keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.
-  Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
-  If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.
-  Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
-  When buying new appliances, consider those that offer cycle and load size adjustments. They're more water and energy efficient.
-  Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
-  Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.
-  When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your plants.
-  Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.



**got water?**  
Do your part, be water smart!


















-  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.
-  When running a bath, plug the tub before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.
-  Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.
-  Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and you can save 140 gallons a week.
-  Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons a month.
-  If your toilet flapper doesn't close after flushing, replace it.
-  When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
-  Make sure there are water-saving aerators on all of your faucets.
-  Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
-  Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
-  Install an instant water heater near your kitchen sink so you don't have to run the water while it heats up. This also reduces energy costs.
-  If your dishwasher is new, cut back on rinsing. Newer models clean more thoroughly than older ones.
-  Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
-  Drop your tissue in the trash instead of flushing it and save water every time.
-  If your toilet was installed before 1992, reduce the amount of water used for each flush by inserting a displacement device in the tank.

















- 💧 Insulate hot water pipes for more immediate hot water at the faucet and for energy savings.
- 💧 Washing dark clothes in cold water saves both on water and energy while it helps your clothes to keep their colors.
- 💧 When washing dishes by hand, fill the sink basin or a large container and rinse when all of the dishes have been soaped and scrubbed.
- 💧 When you are washing your hands, don't let the water run while you lather.
- 💧 Turn off the water while you shave and save up to 300 gallons a month.
- 💧 When shopping for a new clothes washer, compare resource savings among Energy Star models. Some of these can save up to 20 gallons per load, and energy too.
- 💧 If you accidentally drop ice cubes when filling your glass from the freezer, don't throw them in the sink. Drop them in a house plant instead.
- 💧 Listen for dripping faucets and running toilets. Fixing a leak can save 300 gallons a month or more.
- 💧 Setting cooling systems and water softeners for a minimum number of refills saves both water and chemicals, plus more on utility bills.
- 💧 Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.
- 💧 Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.










## **OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION**



- 💧 Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.

-  Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.
-  Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.
-  Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
-  Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
-  Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk and save water every time.
-  If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.
-  Check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
-  Check your pool periodically for leaks.
-  Check the root zone of your lawn or garden for moisture before watering using a spade or trowel. If it's still moist two inches under the soil surface, you still have enough water.
-  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 sprinklers for large areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.
-  Walkways and patios provide space that doesn't ever need to be watered.
-  Collect water from your roof to water your garden.
-  Install a rain sensor on your irrigation controller so your system won't run when it's raining.
-  Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed.
-  Don't water your lawn on windy days when most of the water blows away or evaporates.
-  Group plants with the same watering needs together to avoid overwatering some while underwatering others.

-  Use a layer of organic material on the surface of your planting beds to minimize weed growth that competes for water.
-  Use a minimum amount of organic or slow release fertilizer to promote a healthy and drought tolerant landscape.
-  Trickling or cascading fountains lose less water to evaporation than those spraying water into the air.
-  Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.
-  Avoid recreational water toys that require a constant flow of water.
-  Use a rain gauge to track rainfall on your lawn, reduce your watering accordingly.
-  Learn how to shut off your automatic watering system in case it malfunctions or you get an unexpected rain.
-  Set a kitchen timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you when to stop. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons a minute.
-  Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant for year-round landscape color and save up to 550 gallons each year.
-  Use a grease pencil to mark the water level of your pool at the skimmer. Check the mark 24 hours later to see if you have a leak.
-  If installing a lawn, select a turf mix or blend that matches the climate and site conditions.
-  When the kids want to cool off, use the sprinkler in an area where your lawn needs it the most.
-  Make sure your swimming pools, fountains, and ponds are equipped with recirculating pumps.
-  Consult with your local nursery for information on plant selection and placement for optimum outdoor water savings.
-  Winterize outdoor spigots when temperatures dip below freezing to prevent pipes from leaking or bursting.
-  Direct water from rain gutters and HVAC systems toward water-loving plants in the landscape for automatic water savings.

-  Use a hose-end nozzle while you wash your car. You'll save up to 100 gallons every time.
-  Leave lower branches on trees and shrubs. This keeps the soil cooler and reduces evaporation.
-  Use sprinklers that deliver big drops of water close to the ground. Smaller water drops and mist often evaporate before they hit the ground.
-  Water only when necessary. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering.
-  Wash your pets outdoors in an area of your lawn that needs water.
-  Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it.
-  Aerate your lawn at least once a year so water can reach the roots rather than run off the surface.
-  When you give your pet fresh water, don't throw the old water down the drain. Use it to water your trees or shrubs.
-  Throw trimmings and peelings from fruits and vegetables into your yard compost to prevent using the garbage disposal.

Every  
**DRÖP**  
COUNTS