

CONSERVING WATER IN THE HOME

Indoor water usage, unlike outdoors, is largely the same year-round. That's good news, because it means a few water-saving measures can save a lot on indoor water consumption.

IN THE KITCHEN



Wait until it's hot to turn on your swamp coolers or better yet, switch to a refrigerated unit to save water.



Protect your pipes from freezing temperatures. If a pipe breaks, turn off your water at the meter and call a licensed plumber to begin repairs.



Teach children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.



Whether at home or staying in a hotel, reuse your towels.



Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks. Learn how to find leaks.



Be a leak detective! Check all hoses, connectors, and faucets regularly for leaks.



Hire a GreenPlumber® to help reduce your water, energy, and chemical use.



When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your nonedible plants.

IN THE BATHROOM



Toilet leaks can be silent! Be sure to test your toilet for leaks at least once a year.



When washing your hands, turn the water off while you lather.



Install water-saving aerators on all of vour faucets.



Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save up to 200 gallons a month.



Plug the sink instead of running the water while you shave and save up to 300 gallons a month.



A 10-minute shower can use up to 25 gallons of water. Cut that in half with 5 minute showers.



Turn off the water while you wash your hair and save up to 150 gallons a month.



Save up to a gallon per minute by using a water efficient showerhead.



Taking a bath? Plug the bathtub before turning on the water and adjust the temperature as the tub fills.



If you have an older toilet, replace it with a water efficient model.

IN THE KITCHEN



Dishwashers typically use less water than washing dishes by hand. Choose an Energy Star dishwasher and save even more water and energy.



Select one glass or a refillable water bottle for your drinking water each day. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.



Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.



Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Instead, compost appropriate vegetable food waste for your garden and save water.



Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator or use a microwave.



Run your dishwasher only when it's full.



Collect leftover ice cubes and the water you use while rinsing fruit and vegetables. Use it to water house plants.

DOING LAUNDRY



An Energy Star labeled washing machine uses 25% less energy and 45% less water.



Washing dark clothes in cold water saves water and energy plus it helps your clothes retain their color.