

WATER SAVING TIPS

1. Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush:

Don't keep the tap running when brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass/cup for mouth rinsing.

2. Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables or wash utensils:

Wash and rinse them in a stoppered sink or pan of clean water.

3. Rinse your razor in the sink:

Fill the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your razor just as well as running water. Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face

4. Take shorter showers:

One way to cut down on water is to turn off the shower after soaping up, then turn it on again to rinse. A four-minute shower uses approximately 20-40 gallons of water.

5. Use your water meter to check for hidden water leakages:

Read the water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read the same as before, there is a leakage.

6. Don't use the toilet as an ashtray or waste-basket:

Every time you flush a cigarette butt, facial tissue or other small bit of trash, five to seven gallons of water is wasted.

7. Check faucets and pipes for leakages:

A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20gallons of water per day. Bigger leakages can waste hundreds of gallons.

8. Plant water-resistant lawns and plants:

If you are planting more lawns or plants, use drought-resistant ones. Many beautiful grasses and plants thrive with far less watering than other species.

9. Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants:

Mulch will slow down the evaporation of moisture while discouraging weed growth. Adding 2-4 inches of organic material such as compost or bark mulch will increase the ability of the soil to retain moisture.

10. Don't water the gutter:

Position your sprinklers in such a way that water lands on the lawn or garden and not on paved areas. Also avoid watering on windy days.

11. Water your lawn only when it needs watering:

A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on the grass. If it springs up when you move, it does not need water. If it stays flat, then the lawn is ready for watering. Allowing the grass to grow taller to about 3 inches will promote water retention in the soil. Most lawns need about 1 inch of water each week. During the dry spells, you can stop watering altogether and the lawn will go brown and dormant. Once cooler weather arrives, the morning dew and rainfall will bring the lawn back to its usual vigor.

12. Water during the early parts of the day; avoid watering when it's windy.

Early morning watering is generally better than dusk since it helps to prevent the growth of fungus. Early watering and late watering also reduce water loss to evaporation. Watering early in the day is also the best defense against slugs and other garden pests. Try not to water when it is windy; wind can blow the sprinklers off target and speed evaporation.

13. Check for leakages in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings:

Leakages outside the house may not seem as bad since they are not as visible, but they can be just as wasteful as leakages indoors. Check frequently to keep them drip-free.

*Water conservation comes naturally when everyone in the family is aware of its importance, and parents take the time to teach children some of the simple water saving methods around the home. This can make a big difference.

14. Don't run the hose when washing your car:

Wash the car using a pail of soapy water. Use the hose only for rinsing. This simple practice can save as much as 150 gallons of water when washing a car. Use a spray nozzle for more efficient use of water.

15. Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily:

Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the trash rather than the toilet.

16. Never throw water down the drain:

There may be another use for it such as watering a plant, garden or lawn

17. Use the minimum amount of water needed for a bath:

Closing the drain first and fill the tub only 1/3 full. Stopper tub before turning water. The initial burst of cold water can be warmed by adding hot water later.

18. Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods:

Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave.

19. If the toilet flush handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.

20. If not using tap, turn it off:

Turn off the tap as soon as you have finished using it and ensure that it is not dripping.

21. Report leakages:

Get someone to fix any leaking taps, water fountains or toilets as soon as they are reported.

22. Use a container to wash your paint brushes instead of washing them under running tap.