



Water Usage Facts

If you receive a bill that is higher than usual, contact our Customer Service Office for assistance. IN MOST INSTANCES, WE INVESTIGATE A HIGH READING BEFORE MAILING YOUR BILL TO YOU. The most common reasons for high water usage are excessive irrigation and leaky plumbing fixtures. Following are some conservation tips and possible causes of excessive water usage. Every water-using appliance or activity in your home/business can make a difference.

Inside Your House

1. You can install faucet aerators and restrictors - inexpensive inserts that can help reduce water use. They're easy to install by yourself.
2. Periodically check throughout the house for leaky faucets and valves. Leaks waste water twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. An inexpensive washer is usually enough to stop them.
3. Teach children to turn water faucets off tightly after use.
4. Have you had extra guests? Remember, extra people mean more water usage.

In the Bathroom

1. Check your toilet for leaks. Add a few drops of food coloring to water in tank. If coloring appears in toilet bowl without flushing, there is a leak. Also, listen for the sound of running water.
2. Don't use the toilet as a trash basket or ashtray. The toilet is an expensive disposal, and debris may cause damage to the plumbing.
3. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down and rinse off. Any longer comes under the heading of recreation. Five-minute showers use less water than baths, and tub bathers should keep in mind that a half-full tub cleans just as well as a full tub.
4. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth. Before brushing, wet your brush and fill a glass for rinsing your mouth.
5. Turn off the water while shaving. Fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of warm water in which to rinse your razor.
6. Check bathroom faucets and pipes for leaks. Check for parts that are worn out, out of alignment, or corroded. Even a small drip can waste fifty or more gallons of water a day!

In the Kitchen and Laundry

1. When you use your dishwasher, make sure there's a full load. Every time you run the dishwasher, you use about twenty-five gallons of water.
2. If you wash dishes by hand, scrape dishes from the meal with paper napkins. Do not run the water continuously.
3. Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't run the tap waiting for cool water. Make only the amount of coffee or tea you are going to drink. Use ice cubes to cool water.
4. Use the load selector on your washing machine for large or small loads if there is one. Otherwise, wash only full loads. Use cold water; you won't save water, but you will save energy and money.

Other Water Conservation Tips

1. Put drinking water on the table at home only if people drink it.
2. When dining out, don't let a waiter bring you water unless you request it.
3. Discourage automatic refilling of empty water glasses.
4. Use paper cups at drinking fountains whenever possible to avoid water waste.

Outside the House

1. An outside water faucet/hose/sprinkler can easily deliver 15 gallons per minute. In an hour this totals 900 gallons. Florida soil can soak up this volume in minutes without even a trace, especially on a hot day.
2. Make every watering count, water slowly, thoroughly and as infrequently as possible. Water early in the morning, rather than during hot afternoons to avoid evaporation. Keep a close watch on wind shifts while using sprinklers so you don't water the sidewalk, driveway, street, or building.
3. Select hardy plants that don't need as much water (try native plants and grasses). Mulch heavily. Let grass grow higher in dry weather to prevent burning and to save water.
4. Cover your swimming pool when it is not in use to prevent evaporation and to keep it clean. Recycle wading pool water for plants, shrubs and lawns.
5. Clean pool decks, sidewalks, and driveways with a broom. There's no need to waste gallons of water by hosing these surfaces.
6. You can wash your car using a bucket of water rather than running a garden hose constantly.