





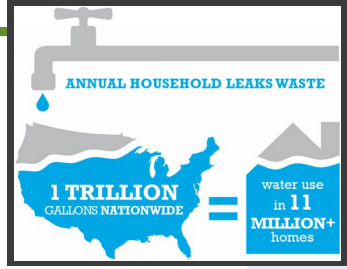


# Water Conservation at Home

## Potential Household Benefits

- **Financial benefits** - Do you routinely buy bottled water? Simple habit changes like using reusable water bottles instead of plastic ones could save you \$500 per year. Investing in WaterSense products can turn a profit in 1-3 years.
- **Reduce your water footprint** - Even in a water rich state, it is important to reduce your water footprint. Overuse is leading to an increase in the demand for water which will grow due to changes in the water cycle from climate change. Calculate your water footprint here.
- **Saving water saves energy** - All water uses energy to move, treat, and heat, so using less water contributes to saving energy simultaneously. Learn more about the link between energy and water here.

	Efficient	17.0 gphd	108 gphd	33.1 gphd	24.0 gphd	24.9 gphd	0.9 gphd					
		Toilets		Irrigation		Faucets		Showerheads		Dishwasher		Clothes Washer
Typical	33.1 gphd	138 gphd	28.1 gphd	33.1 gphd	26.3 gphd	1.6 gphd						



## Save in the Bathroom

**Bathing** - Taking 2-4 minutes off your shower saves about 4,000 gallons and \$100/year. The average bath uses 35-50 gallons, so take baths occasionally.

**Shave outside of the shower**

**Bathroom sink** - The simplest way to save water in the bathroom is to turn the sink off while shaving or brushing your teeth. Invest in low flow faucet aerators which flow at about half the rate of conventional ones.

**Toilet** - Flushing is the biggest water waste in the house. Save ¼ of the water your toilet originally used by making your own low flow toilet.

“If it’s yellow, let it mellow,” only flush when you need to.

## Other Ways to Save Indoors

- **In the kitchen...** Avoid letting your faucet needlessly run, or install low flow faucets to reduce water use by 3.5 gallons per minute. By scraping your plates and fully loading the dishwasher, you can save water and energy.
- **Washing machines...** Fill up the washing machine. Running half as many loads saves about \$150/year in energy and water costs.
- **Fixing leaks...** Leaks are drains for useful water. Calculate how much water your faucets or leaks waste with the Drip Calculator. Learn more about catching and fixing different types of leaks here.

## Save Outdoors

- **Garden** - Avoid watering gardens when the day is at its hottest since the water will evaporate. Learn how to set up a drip irrigation system here. Learn about planting native plants here.
- **Car washing** - Find a car wash that recycles their water. If you wash your own car, use buckets to hold water and be mindful of harmful runoff.
- **Cover your pool** to avoid water evaporation.

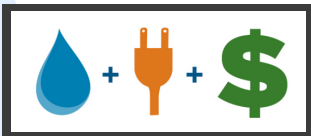
## Go Deeper

WaterSense

ENERGY STAR

How to Save Water from the Water Footprint Calculator

Learn more about the water footprint metric  
Learn about water conservation from the EPA



## Invest for Savings

- **WaterSense** labeled products such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads cut water waste.
- **ENERGY STAR** appliances such as refrigerators, washers, and dryers are more energy efficient and generate electricity savings.
- **Rain barrels** are an effective way to collect rainwater, and they benefit your plants, water footprint, and water bill.

## Save Indirectly

- **Water in Spending...** Buy second hand, purchase thoughtfully, and recycle instead of contributing to virtual water waste.
- **Saving water, saves energy...** Letting a faucet run for 5 minutes uses as much energy as a 60-watt light bulb running for 14 hours.
- **Water in your diet...** It takes an a lot of water to produce any animal products, so reduce food waste, save leftovers, or compost.