



Water Saving Tips For Inside the Home

The average American family uses 320 gallons of water per day, make use of these tips to help save on your utility bill, and conserve water in your community.

- Check all toilets in the house for leaks twice a year and repair a leaking toilet immediately.
- Repair or replace dripping or leaking faucets and waterlines.
- When washing dishes by hand, use a sink full of soapy water. Don't let the water run continuously.
- Use low flow and water saving fixtures and appliances when replacing washing machines, dishwashers, toilets, and faucets.
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save four gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons a week for a family of four.
- Don't use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.
- Wash vegetables and fruits in a bowl or basin using a vegetable brush instead of letting the water run.

Useful links

Water sense

http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/shower_better.html

Conserving water at home

<http://www.brazos.org/About-Us/Water-Supply/Conservation/Conserving-Water-at-Home>

Rain water Harvesting

<http://www.brazos.org/About-Us/Water-Supply/Conservation/Rainwater-Harvesting>

Water Sense

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor/>

Xeriscape

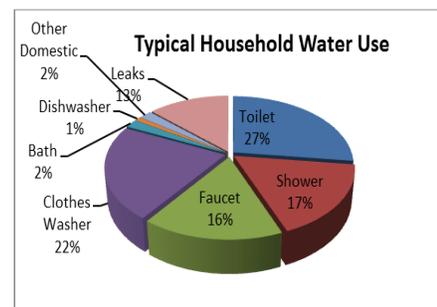
<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/xeriscape/xeriscape.html>

Earth-kind Landscaping

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/>

Texas Water Development Board

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/publications/brochures/conservation/doc/WaterGuide.pdf>





Water Saving Tips for Outside the Home

Approximately 30 percent of water used in the American home is devoted to outdoor uses. Consider these water saving recommendations to reduce water consumption and maintain an attractive landscape.

- Water your lawn only when needed; once every four days is best.
- Turn-off automated irrigation system when rain is predicted; leave it off until soil dries and needs water again.
- Maintain a thick layer of mulch on beds to reduce water loss from the soil and minimize weed growth.
- Set lawn mower blades to cut grass 2-3' tall, leave grass clippings.
- Hand water landscape areas that need more water than other areas.
- Use a hose spray nozzle with a shutoff handle that stops water flow when not in use.
- Use a broom to sweep debris off pavement.
- Choose drought resistant and native plants and create hydro zones where plants with similar water requirements are grouped together.
- Collect rain water to use in the landscape.

Estimated Irrigation System Water Use

Number of Stations/Zones	Watering Time (Minutes)	Number of Times Per Month	Total Gallons Used
7	5	Every Other Day (15days)	10,500
7	5	Two Times Per Week (8 Days)	5,600
7	5	One Time Per Week (4 Days)	2,800
8	5	Every Other Day (15Days)	12,000
8	5	Two Times Per Week (8 Days)	6,400
8	5	One Time Per Week (4 Days)	3,200

