

HOW BIG IS YOUR SPLASH?

Do you know how large your water use is? Answer the following questions to find out how big of a splash your water consumption makes

I turn off the tap while soaping my hands.

- Always Sometimes Never

I turn off the tap while brushing my teeth.

- Always Sometimes Never

I take showers instead of baths.

- Always Sometimes Never

I try to limit my showers to 5 mins.

- Always Sometimes Never

I do not use the toilet to dispose of garbage.

- Always Sometimes Never

I only do laundry/wash dishes when I have a full load.

- Always Sometimes Never

I water my plants during the coolest part of the day

- Always Sometimes Never

I try to limit the amount of meat I eat each week.

- Always Sometimes Never

I choose not to drink bottled water.

- Always Sometimes Never

I reduce, reuse, and recycle regularly.

- Always Sometimes Never

I recycle (or re-style) or donate clothing.

- Always Sometimes Never

I save the water used for cooking and food preparation to water my plants.

- Always Sometimes Never

I am actively involved in water-conservation projects, campaigns, and initiatives.

- Always Sometimes Never

Add up how many answer you have in each category. Whichever answer you used most relates to how big your water use is.

- Always Sometimes Never
= Small = Average = Enormous

RAIN BARRELS

A rain barrel is a container used to catch rain water from a downspout. The collected water can be used to water lawns and gardens, and wash cars and other outside surfaces. Rain barrels are a great way to help save water and lower associated costs:

- Using a rain barrel reduces demand on storm water management systems
- Harvesting rainwater is free, and decreases the amount of your water bill
- No pumping is required, so there is no electricity costs
- Using saved water reduces demand on our drinking water supply, especially during hot weather



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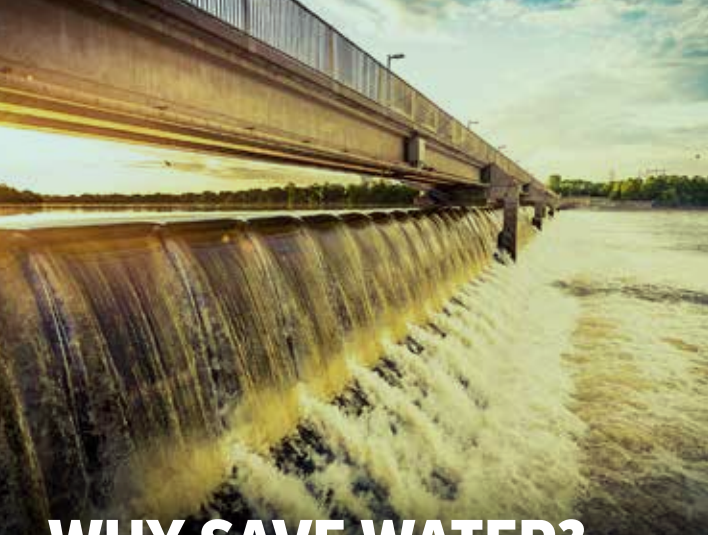
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WATER CONSERVATION



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WHY SAVE WATER?

With 70% of the Earth covered in water, why do we need to worry about conserving it?

Of the Earth's water supply only less than 1% of it is fresh, and usable for humans and we are currently using our reserves faster than nature can replenish them. With continued demand for more and more water additional strain is placed upon supply. We as consumers and direct users can change our habits to save water for ourselves and the future.

How much water does it use?

See how much water these daily activities use and how simple changes can save thousands of liters! (Number based upon annual water use for a family of 4)

Watering the lawn = 160,000L

Leaks = 81,000L

Old washing machine = 81,000L

Newer machine = 40,000L

High flow showerhead = 61,000L

Low flow head = 31,000L

Standard tap = 58,000L

Tap with aerator = 38,000L

HOW TO SAVE WATER DURING EACH WATER CYCLE STAGE

Stage 1: Rainfall

Atmospheric moisture condenses and precipitates, falling as rain or snow.

How You Can Help: Offset your need for treated water by capturing rainfall in a rain barrel and using it to water your garden.

Stage 2: Source Water Use

Untreated water is drawn for electricity generation, irrigation, public use, and industries.

How You Can Help: Save water by conserving electricity, which accounts for 55 percent of all water use.

Stage 3: Withdrawal & Water Treatment

Water is drawn from surface sources or aquifers and is treated for public consumption.

How You Can Help: Reduce your water use by installing low-flow plumbing fixtures throughout your home.

Stage 4: Treated Water Use and Reuse

Water is used, treated, stored and reused through the sanitary sewer system.

How You Can Help: To lessen stress on your local water system, minimize your use during peak daytime hours.

Stage 5: Release & Wastewater Treatment

Water undergoes a purification process and is then returned to the environment.

How You Can Help: Reduce your environmental impact by properly disposing of prescription medicine instead of flushing it.

Stage 6: Evaporation

Water returns to the atmosphere via evaporation, completing the cycle.

How You Can Help: Water your lawn in the morning or after the sun has set to reduce water lost to evaporation.

WATER IN OUR FOOD

All food needs water in order to grow and when we throw it out we not only waste the food but all that water too. By only buying what you need and ensuring that not a crumb is wasted you can help save valuable resources.

How much water goes into our food?

LITRES OF WATER USED

Apples: 822 L / kg	Eggs: 196 L / egg
Beef: 15,415 L / kg	Milk: 255 L / 250mL
Bread: 1,608 L / kg	Pork: 5,988 L / kg
Cheese: 3,178 L / kg	Potatoes: 287 L / kg
Chicken: 4,325 L / kg	Tea: 27 L / 250mL
Coffee: 18,900 L / kg	Tomatoes: 214 L / kg

