



Water Conservation Tips

OUTDOORS:

- When you're done using your hose, don't just toss it aside. To prevent leaks and conserve water, make sure the outdoor faucet the hose is attached to is turned off completely.
- Staring down a dirty driveway? Don't reach for the hose. Instead, grab a broom and sweep the concrete to get the same result.
- Water your lawn when it's cooler, early in the morning or late in the evening. Sprinklers aren't necessary every day. To stay healthy and green, your lawn only needs 2.5cm of water per week.
- Caring for your lawn doesn't necessarily mean keeping the grass short.
- Letting the grass grow longer will shade the soil from the sun, keeping it cool and reducing the need for watering.
- Watering plants? Don't reach for the hose! Collecting rainwater in a rain barrel can save you from even more consumption.
- With regular irrigation system maintenance, you can avoid malfunctions that require more water to maintain pressure. Blow water out of the system before winter to avoid breaks and leaks.
- It is better to visit a carwash than to hose down your car in the driveway. Not only do carwashes use less water, but they also do a great job of controlling runoff.

BATHROOM:

- A leaking toilet can waste water all day. They can even be a silent culprit!
- Visit our "Think you have a leak?" section on the website for more information on checking to see if your toilet has a leak. Save more water by installing a toilet dam or buying a low-flow toilet.

- A hot bath can be relaxing, but you can save up to 70 litres of water by taking a shower instead. Save even more by installing low-flow shower heads and limiting your showers to 5 minutes.
- A running water goes right down the drain. You can save thousands of litres of water every year by turning taps off while you're brushing your teeth or shaving.

LAUNDRY & UTILITY ROOMS:

- To save water, you should only run your washing machine when it's full. Or, if your machine has a water level setting, try adjusting the level to match the amount laundry you're about to wash.
- Some washing machine settings use more water, and some have extra rinse cycles. If you notice that your machine gets stuck on a rinse cycle, the timer may need to be repaired.
- Clogged valves can stay open and cause your furnace humidifier to run non-stop. You can save water with regular seasonal maintenance, including making sure the furnace filters are clean.
- Check your water softener regularly to make sure it's working properly. It's common for softeners to get stuck on the cleaning cycle and run continuously.

KITCHEN:

- Instead of running your dishwasher after every meal, wait until it is full.
- A properly loaded dishwasher can save water compared to hand washing.
- To save water, avoid running the faucet while doing dishes or preparing food. Try filling both sinks to wash and rinse dishes, wash produce in a pan of water, and let food thaw in the fridge.
- You can save water and money by doing minor repairs, like tightening loose faucets and changing failed washers. Even a slow, steady drip can waste up to 27,000 litres of water per year.