

# WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER IN YOUR HOME



1. **CHECK FAUCETS AND PIPES FOR LEAKS:** A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.
2. **DON'T USE THE TOILET AS AN ASHTRAY OR WASTEBASKET:** Every time you flush a cigarette butt, facial tissue or other small bit of trash, five to seven gallons of water is wasted.
3. **CHECK YOUR TOILETS FOR LEAKS:** Put a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately. Most replacement parts are inexpensive and easy to install.
4. **USE YOUR WATER METER TO CHECK FOR HIDDEN WATER LEAKS:** Read the house meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.
5. **INSTALL WATER-SAVING SHOWER HEADS AND LOW-FLOW FAUCET AERATORS:** Inexpensive water-saving low-flow shower heads or restrictors are easy for the homeowner to install. Also, long, hot showers can use five to ten gallons every unneeded minute. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down and rinse off. "Low-flow" means it uses less than 2.5 gallons per minute. Also, all household faucets should be fit with aerators. The single best home water conservation method is also the cheapest.
6. **INSULATE YOUR WATER PIPES:** It's easy and inexpensive to insulate your pipes with pre-silt foam pipe insulation. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.
7. **TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS:** One way to cut down on water use is to turn off the shower after soaping up. Then turn it back on to rinse. A four-minute shower uses approximately 20 to 40 gallons of water.
8. **TURN OFF THE WATER AFTER TO WET YOUR TOOTHBRUSH:** There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for rinsing.
9. **RINSE YOUR RAZOR IN THE SINK:** Fill the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your razor just as well as running water, with far less water of water.
10. **USE YOUR DISHWASHER AND CLOTHES WASHER FOR ONLY FULL LOADS:** Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation.
11. **WHEN WASHING DISHES BY HAND, DON'T LEAVE THE WATER RUNNING FOR RINSING:** If you have double-basin, fill one with soapy water and one with the rinse water. If you have a single-basin sink, gather washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a spray device or a panful of hot water.
12. **DON'T LET THE FAUCET RUN WHILE YOU CLEAN VEGETABLES:** Just rinse them in a stoppered sink or pan of clean water.
13. **KEEP A BOTTLE OF DRINKING WATER IN THE FRIDGE:** Running tap water to cool it off for drinking water is wasteful.
14. **CHECK ALL OUTSIDE FAUCETS FOR DRIPS:** Make sure outside faucets are turned off completely. Disconnect hose from the outside faucets so you are sure that the water is turned off.

This information taken from [www.eartheasy.com](http://www.eartheasy.com), for any other information on water conservation visit the earth easy website.