

SAVING WATER INDOORS

**Utilities Department
Water Resource Management Division
Water Conservation Section**

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It is estimated each person in our region uses an average of **111 gallons of water each day.**

Check for leaks in toilets, faucets, and showerheads.

Less than 1% of the earth's water is suitable for drinking water.



We can save water every day by simply modifying some of our daily routines.

A leaking TOILET can waste up to 100 gallons of water a day.

Add 4 or 5 drops of food coloring into the tank and wait 15 minutes. If colored water appears in the bowl, there is probably a leak. A new flapper will take care of some toilet leaks.



Take shorter SHOWERS.

Shower water use can be **reduced 50%** with a low-flow showerhead.

Low-flow showerheads use less than 3 gallons of water a minute.

Some **LOW-FLOW FAUCET AERATORS** use less than **2 gallons of water a minute.**

Save water by hand-washing dishes. A little water and dish soap.

Turn off the water when brushing your teeth.

It takes two to three minutes to brush your teeth and about 30 seconds to wash your hands.

A few moments everyday **with the water off** when hand-washing dishes and brushing teeth saves some water and a few pennies. **It adds up.**



Run only full loads in the **WASHING MACHINE and DISHWASHER.** Running full loads **saves energy, time and water.**



For most of Florida's sandy soils, 1/2" to 3/4" inch of water per application is sufficient. Review your irrigation system run times.

HOW LONG SHOULD YOU WATER?

1. Place five to ten empty, straight-edged cans randomly within an irrigation zone. **When using a portable hose-end sprinkler**, place containers in a straight line from the sprinkler to the outward most edge of the area being watered.
2. Run the irrigation zone or portable sprinkler for 15 minutes.
3. Measure the amount of water in each can.
4. Calculate an average water depth of water collected.
5. Multiply the average depth of water by **FOUR**.

This determines how long it takes to apply 1/2" to 3/4" inch of water.

Florida law requires any person who purchases and installs an automatic landscape irrigation system must properly install, maintain and operate technology which inhibits or interrupts operation of the system during periods of sufficient moisture.

An example is a rain shutoff device.



Try a **GARDEN HOSE, HOSE-END, PORTABLE SPRINKLER AND A MANUAL GARDEN HOSE TIMER.** Attach the timer to one

end of the hose and the portable sprinkler to the other end. Attach the timer to the faucet. Set the timer to water 1/2" to 3/4" inch of water as determined by the above method. Set the timer appropriately. The timer will automatically stop the flow of water when the pre-set amount of time has expired. **Remember**, turn off the water at the faucet after watering.



This method targets a specific area and is an option for small lawns.

An unattended **GARDEN HOSE** can **waste over 500 gallons of water an hour.**

An automatic shutoff nozzle **can save an estimated 60% or more water** when hand-watering landscape or washing a vehicle with a garden hose.



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About **50 percent** of water consumed by the typical Florida household is through **outdoor water use.**

Check for leaks in garden hoses, outdoor faucets, and irrigation systems.

Water the lawn **ONLY** on allowable watering days during allowable watering times.

