



**There are a
number of ways to
save water, and they
all start with YOU.**



North Texas Municipal Water District

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Conserve Water - Inside the Home

- ◆ **Collect water used for rinsing produce and reuse it to water houseplants..**
- ◆ **Don't use running water to thaw food.**
- ◆ **Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and can save 140 gallons a week.**
- ◆ **Install an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up. This will also reduce heating costs for your household.**
- ◆ **Install water softening systems only when necessary. Save water and salt by running the minimum number of regenerations necessary to maintain water softness.**
- ◆ **Insulate hot water pipes so you don't have to run as much water to get hot water to the faucet.**
- ◆ **Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.**

- ◆ **Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.**
- ◆ **Listen for dripping faucets. Fixing a leak can save 500 gallons each month.**
- ◆ **Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save gallons of water and damage to your home if a pipe were to burst.**
- ◆ **Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost instead and save gallons every time.**
- ◆ **Wash your produce in the sink or a pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap.**
- ◆ **Select the proper size pans for cooking. Large pans require more cooking water than may be necessary**



- ◆ **Teach your children to turn the faucets off tightly after each use.**
- ◆ **When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.**
- ◆ **When you clean your fish tank, use the water you've drained on your plants. The water is rich in nitrogen and phosphorus, providing you with a free and effective fertilizer.**
- ◆ **Use aerators on all faucets.**
- ◆ **Cook food in as little water as possible. This will also retain more of the nutrients.**



HELP US MAINTAIN CLEAN DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE

Your everyday contributions supporting this effort can make a difference.

Conserve Water - Inside the Home (Cont.)



- ◆ **Wash clothes only when you have a full load and save up to 600 gallons each month.**
- ◆ **When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.**
- ◆ **Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when they are full and you could save 1000 gallons a month.**

- ◆ **Cut back on rinsing if your dishwasher is new. Newer models clean more thoroughly than older ones.**
- ◆ **Designate one glass for your drinking water each day. This will cut down on the number of times you run your dishwasher.**



- ◆ **Evaporative coolers require a seasonal maintenance checkup. For more efficient cooling, check your evaporative cooler annually.**
- ◆ **Research new appliance purchases. Look for EPA WaterSense approved appliances which can save you money and help you conserve.**



EPA WaterSense product information can be found online at:

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/pp/index.htm>



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Conserve Water - Inside the Home (Cont.)



💧 Before you lather up, install a low-flow

showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save your family more than 500 gallons a week.

💧 If your shower can fill a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, then replace it with a water-efficient showerhead.

- 💧 Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1000 gallons a month.
- 💧 Plug the bathtub before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.
- 💧 Turn the water off while you shampoo and condition your hair and you can save more than 50 gallons a week.
- 💧 Bathe your young children together.

💧 Drop tissue in the trash instead of flushing it - save gallons every time.

💧 If your toilet was installed prior to 1980, place a toilet dam or bottle filled with water in your toilet tank to cut down on the amount of water used for each flush. Be sure these devices do not interfere with operating parts.



- 💧 Install low-flow or dual-flush toilets.
- 💧 Make sure your toilet flapper doesn't stick open after flushing.



- 💧 Turn off the water while you shave - save more than 100 gallons a week.
- 💧 Listen for dripping faucets and toilets that flush themselves. Fixing a leak can save 500 gallons each month.
- 💧 Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save 4 gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons a week for a family of four.
- 💧 Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl, you have a leak. It's easy to fix, and you can save more than 600 gallons a month.



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**Do one thing
EVERY DAY
that will save water.**

**Even if savings are small,
every drop counts.**



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