

TIPS FOR CONSERVING WATER

Some ideas and suggestions for conserving your water usage

- Check all faucets, pipes and toilets regularly for leaks or drips. Make any repairs as promptly as possible. As much as 15 gallons of water a day can be lost with a slow drip.
- Consider a low flow toilet. This could save a couple of gallons per flush.
- Test your toilet for leaks by removing the toilet tank cover and adding food colouring into the tank. After 20 minutes check for coloured water in the toilet bowl. If you see colour you may have a leak and should have your toilet checked. Also remember to check the flapper periodically to ensure a tight fit.
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket, extra flushing can waste gallons of water.
- If you have an irrigation system, make sure none of the valves are leaking and consider a timer.
- If you use a sprinkler, is it on a timer?
- Take care to not overwater plants and lawns and ensure that you are following the appropriate by-law regarding water usage for irrigation purposes.
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and in the washing machine.
- Avoid running the water continuously while shaving, brushing teeth, peeling vegetables or while washing dishes.
- Have a fish tank....try reusing the water to water plants. This will fertilize the plants as well as watering them.
- Instead of running faucets for a lengthy time to cool water, try keeping drinking water in the refrigerator.
- Install a water-saving shower head. Older shower heads can use twice as many gallons per minute.
- Shorten shower times or try turning the water off while soaping and scrubbing.
- Avoid cleaning paved areas and decks with the hose, try using a broom instead.
- When washing vehicles use a bucket for washing and a hose only for rinsing.
- Use a cistern or rain barrel to collect rain water for watering plants and spot watering the lawn.
- If you have a swimming pool, try keeping it covered. Covering a swimming pool reduces evaporation and needs less top-ups.
- Recycle pool water. Use it for watering lawns, plants, trees and shrubs.
- If using a sprinkler, ensure it is away from sidewalks and curbs to maximize watering efforts.

