

10 SIMPLE WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER

1. Follow your local water use restrictions.

The most important thing you can do during times of drought is to follow your local water municipalities' current water restrictions.

2. Refit your plumbing.

Either replace fixtures with newer, low flow models or install water-saving devices.

3. Check for leaks and repair them.

Leaks can amount to about 15 percent of all household indoor water use.

4. Use indoor water wisely.

Turn off water while lathering, shaving and brushing your teeth.

5. Know your plumbing.

Take time to locate your main water shut-off valve in case of an emergency. Have a licensed plumber install a water main shut-off valve if needed.

6. Use dry cleanup.

Instead of hosing off your driveway and patio, use a broom to sweep away debris.

7. Take advantage of free water.

Catch rainwater from your gutters and use it to water your flowers and vegetables. Collect water from the bath/shower while waiting for it to heat up; use for watering plants.

8. Use appliances wisely.

Run washing machines and dishwashers only with full loads to maximize efficiency.

9. When washing cars at home, be sure to use a hose nozzle.

Hosing your car off in the driveway can waste a significant amount of water. Use a hose nozzle to shut off water flow between rinses.

10. Avoid using sink disposals for food scraps.

Disposals can use around 11 gallons of water per minute, plus they can add significant amounts of fats, oils and grease to the wastewater system.