

How Much Water Does Your Household Use?

When you flush the toilet needlessly, leave the sink running, wash your vehicle with a running hose or take a long shower, you are wasting water. A water efficient lifestyle can save you money on water and utility bills, reduce expensive infrastructure costs and reduce sewer and septic costs.

By conserving water today, we can ensure the safety of this precious resource for tomorrow.



Installing a low flow showerhead can save as much as 10 litres per minute



Water:
Use & Conservation

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Thank you to Washington State Department of Health
Division of Drinking Water

Water: Use & Conservation



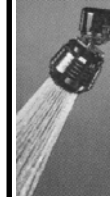
Residential Water Consumption Audit

Residential Water Consumption Audit		
Fill in the spaces provided to determine approximately where your water is going and how much you are consuming per week. Make sure you stick to either litres or gallons.		
<u>In The Bathroom:</u>		
Toilets:		
How many times a day are your toilets flushed on average?	(a)	
How much water does your toilet	(b)	
Multiply the length x width x height of water in the tank (in feet) by 28.32 to get litres or by 6.23 to get gallons		
The amount of water used for toilet	(a) x (b)	
How many leaking toilets are present?	(c)	
The amount of water lost by a toilet leak per week is	(c) x 5750L (1520 gal)	
Show ers:		
How many litres/gallons per minute is your showerhead?	(d)	
measure in a bucket for 15 sec. Then multiply the volume by 4		
How many showers are taken in your household per week?	(e)	
Approximately how many minutes per shower?	(f)	
The amount of water used due to showering is	(d) x (e) x (f) =	
tip: Remember that more water is used when getting the water to the right temperature, so you may want to add 10% to the total for accuracy		
<u>In the Laundry Room:</u>		
How many times per week is the laundry done?	(g)	
Approximately how much water does your washing machine use?	(h)	
The instruction manual should say. Otherwise use 160L (35 gallons).		

The amount of water used for clothes washing is	(g) x (h) =	
<u>In the Kitchen:</u>		
Dish washing:		
How many times per week do you use your dishwasher?	(i)	
Approximately how much water does your dishwasher use?	(j)	
The amount of water used for dishwashing is	(i) x (j) =	
How many times do you do dishes by hand per week?	(k)	
Approximately how much water is used in filling and rinsing?	(l)	
The amount of water used for	(k) x (l) =	
<u>The whole house:</u>		
How many leaky faucets are present?	(m)	
Is it a: steady/slow leak? (400L/104 gal), fast drip (675L/175 gal) or a stream (2275/590 gal)?		
The amount of water used on leaky faucets is	(m) x (n) =	
Other sources of water use are bathroom sink (brushing teeth, washing and shaving), cooking (filling pots, rinsing fruits and vegetables), drinking water (including pets), watering plants, and filling fish tanks. This can amount to approximately 32L (7 g)		
The amount of people living in the house	___ x 32 L (7 gal) x 7 days =	
<u>In the outdoors:</u>		
How many car washes per week?	___ x 400L =	
Less water is used when using a bucket to wash your car, not just a running hose		
How many times for garden/lawn watering?	___ x 35L/min =	

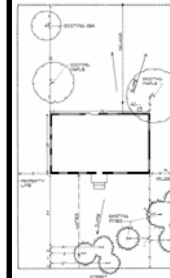
Total up the boxes to determine how much water is used in 1 week for your household		
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Ways to Decrease Water Consumption



A standard faucet aerator can use as much as 16 L (3.5 gallons) of water per minute, while a low flow swivel aerator can cut this in half.

By mapping out your yard, you can locate zones that may need more watering than others. Zone watering ensures that the different water demands are met. Water waste will be prevented and your yard will be healthier and happier.



If you fill a cup while brushing your teeth, or fill the sink while cleaning up you can reduce water use by 60-80 percent

