

The Do's and Don'ts of Water Conservation

Delaware River Basin residents can save *hundreds of gallons of water every week* by following these water-saving tips:

BATHROOM

Do take shorter showers & save 3-5 gallons every minute.

Do fill the tub halfway & save 10-15 gallons.

Do install water-saving toilets, shower heads, and faucet aerators. Place a plastic bottle filled with water in your toilet tank if you can't switch to a low flow toilet.

Don't run the water while shaving, washing your hands, or brushing your teeth. Faucets use 2-3 gallons/minute.

Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket & don't flush it unnecessarily.

EVERYWHERE

Do check your water meter or bill to see how much water you are using. A good rule of thumb is 50-60 gallons/day/person.

Do repair leaky faucets & turn taps off tightly. Slow drips waste 15-20 gallons/day.

KITCHEN & LAUNDRY

Do run the dishwasher & washing machine only when full. Save even more water by using the short cycle.

Do install front-loading washing machines, which reduce water usage by about 40 percent.

Don't let the water run while washing dishes.

OUTDOOR

Do use a self-closing nozzle on your hose.

Do position your downspouts so rain water runs onto the lawn or into the garden, not down the driveway.

Do plant drought-resistant trees/flowers and use mulch to keep the soil moist.

Don't water lawns during the heat of the day.

Don't use water to clean sidewalks or driveways -- sweep them instead.

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Did You Know???

 Up to 90 percent of water used to sprinkle lawns can be lost through evaporation from soil and plants.

 Approximately two-thirds of residential interior water use is for toilet flushing and bathing. The use of water-saving toilets, shower heads, and faucet aerators can cut this usage in half.

 A garden hose discharges up to six-and-a-half gallons of water per minute under standard household water pressure.

 Hot water leaks not only are a waste of water, but a waste of the energy (and money) used to heat that water.

 A top-loading clothes washer uses between 40 and 55 gallons of water per load. Front-loading models reduce water usage by about 40 percent. Make sure they're full before turning them on.

 A dishwasher uses between eight and 12 gallons of water per load. Again, only run full loads.

**Water conservation is a smart investment
not only for now, but for the future ...**

Please make it a lifelong habit!

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