

# Top Ways to Save Water INDOOR SAVINGS

## Take a 5-minute shower instead of a 10-minute shower, PLUS:

- ▶ Install a new WaterSense-labeled showerhead right away.
- ▶ Use a shower timer to “Stop in Time” after 5 minutes.



## Remember to turn off the water when brushing your teeth, PLUS:

- ▶ Install new WaterSense-labeled bathroom faucet aerators right away.
- ▶ This will reduce your sink’s water flow by 30 percent or more without sacrificing performance.



## Fix leaky toilets and faucets.

- ▶ Replace an old toilet flapper with a new one to prevent silent leaks.
- ▶ Replace worn out rubber washers in your faucets to stop drips.



## Replace old water-wasting toilets with new ones.

- ▶ Select WaterSense-labeled toilets for saving water and good performance.
- ▶ Some water agencies will pay you money to replace your toilet, so check for rebates at [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info).



## Replace an old clothes washer with a new water/energy efficient one.

- ▶ Choose an ENERGY STAR-certified clothes washer.
- ▶ Use cold water when you wash to use less energy.
- ▶ Always wash full loads of laundry.



## Don't use the toilet as a waste basket.

- ▶ Toss bathroom trash into a trash can instead.



# Top Ways to Save Water

## OUTDOOR SAVINGS

### Water landscaping early in the day.

- ▶ When the sun is out, the water can evaporate before it gets to your lawn and plants.



### Limit watering, and follow your water provider's guidelines.

- ▶ Each water provider has different watering guidelines.
- ▶ Find out about yours before watering at [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info).



### See if your lawn needs water first.

- ▶ Do the “screwdriver test” by sticking an 8” screwdriver into the ground.
- ▶ If you can push it in more than 3” you don’t need to water.



### Add mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation.

- ▶ Mulch includes organic plant material like leaves and wood chips.
- ▶ Mulch is like icing on a cake — it keeps the soil moist the way icing keeps a cake moist.
- ▶ Mulch slows evaporation by allowing water to sink into the soil and cool the soil temperature.
- ▶ Mulch breaks down into nutrients for the plants.



### Adjust sprinklers to reduce overspray and runoff.

- ▶ Reduce the amount of water sprayed onto sidewalks and driveways.
- ▶ Use the “Soak and Cycle” method to reduce runoff.

