

Indoor Water Conservation Tips



General

- Locate your master water shut-off valve in case a pipe bursts and you need to shut it off to avoid flooding
- Repair leaks. Even small leaks can waste 100 gallons of water each week.
- Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster.
- Ask TVWD for a **leak kit**. This kit contains dye tablets (to check for a leaky toilet), a TVWD "Water Loss Adjustment Request Form" and Meter Reading and Water Conservation Tips. Call (503) 642-1511 to receive a kit.

Kitchen

- Install an instant water heater on the kitchen sink so you don't have to let water run while it heats.
- Garbage disposals require a lot of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile instead.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan filled with water or a partially filled sink instead of under running water.
- Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.
- When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- When it's time to replace your dishwasher, invest in an energy efficient dishwasher.

Laundry

- Run the washing machine only when full.
- When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
- Invest in new water-saving appliances, like high-efficiency washing machines that can save up to 50% on water use.

Bathroom

- Invest in high-efficiency toilets (HETs). Take advantage of TVWD's Residential HET Rebate program to receive up to \$225 for replacing up to three old, inefficient toilets with EPA WaterSense Certified models.
- Invest in high-efficiency faucets and showerheads. TVWD has free high-efficiency showerheads available by calling (503) 848-3056.
- Keep showers under 5 minutes.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Turn off the water while you shave.
- Don't flush tissue, cigarettes, or small bits of trash down the toilet.
- Toilet tank leaks can be silent — but costly! From time to time, use a dye tablet in the tank to check for leaks. You may save 200 gallons a month if you find and repair a leak!