

# Water Conservation Inside the Home

It would be unwise for Utahns to take drinking water for granted. As our population increases so does the demand for water resources, treatment plants, and water delivery systems. Conservation is no longer just a good idea; it is absolutely necessary for the future success of our state.

## Some things to think about:

- A bath may use up to 70 gallons of water.
- If your shower head was installed before 1992 it may spray as much as 5 gallons per minute.
- Typically the highest water consuming device in the home is the toilet.

## Top things to do inside the home

- Install low flow shower heads, toilets, and sink aerators.
- Repair all leaks.
- Use water only when necessary.
- Install new appliances that use less water
- Monitor water bill for usage and to detect leaks.

## In the Shower

### Low flow shower head verses the traditional

- Water use for typical 10 minute shower  
5 gallons/minute x 10 minutes  
=50 gallons

- A water conservative 5 minute shower  
2.5 gallons/minute x 5 minutes =12.5 gallons

**Water savings = 37.5 gallons per shower!**

## Another good idea

Keep a bucket in the shower to collect clean water for your plants.



## The Toilet

Inside the home most of the water used goes down the toilet. If your toilet was installed before 1992 it may use up to **5 gallons** per flush. Low flow toilets require **less than 1.6 gallons** per flush.

## Toilet Maintenance

- Put a plastic bottle filled with water or sand inside the toilet tank to lower the water required to fill the tank. Experiment with the water level that works best for your toilet.
- Put food coloring in the tank and if the color appears in the bowl without flushing there is a leak in your toilet.
- Do not use caustic cleaners because they can damage the plastic and rubber components of the toilet and cause leaks. Contact your local hardware store for repair information.

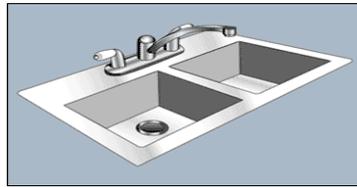


## Another good idea

Don't use the toilet as a garbage can

## In the Kitchen

The number one way to save water in the kitchen is to simply find creative ways to not have to do so many dishes! Have you ever asked yourself why are there always so many dishes to do?



## Consider this

If every member of a 4 person household drank the recommended 8 glasses of water a day and used a different glass for every one, it would add up to 32 glasses to wash!



## Some ideas

- Use only one glass a day per person for water. Try using a different color cup for every household member to keep them from getting mixed up.

- If you wash dishes by hand, fill one basin with clean water for rinsing instead of running the water. Fill a smaller basin or pot with the soapy water.

## More helpful tips

- Instead of letting the water run while waiting for it to get hot, keep a plastic basin in the sink to collect the clean water and use it for your plants.
- Scrape food from dishes into the garbage can or compost instead of using the disposal.
- Do not run your dishwasher or clothes washer unless it is full.
- Try using an electric razor.
- Thaw food in the refrigerator or microwave instead of using water.
- Perform an annual check up on your evaporative cooler.
- Use a cup of water when brushing teeth instead of letting the water run.
- Teach your children water saving techniques and educate them about the importance of water.



## Resources:

[www.conservewater.utah.gov](http://www.conservewater.utah.gov)  
[www.waterinfo.org](http://www.waterinfo.org)  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)  
[www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org)  
[www.water.utah.gov](http://www.water.utah.gov)

For additional information on Storm Water Protection refer to the following brochures:

- Erosion Control
- Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application
- Household and Vehicle Maintenance
- Impervious Surfaces
- Landscaping, Gardening, and Yard Maintenance
- Paint and Household Hazardous Waste
- Pet Waste Water Quality
- Utah and its Water, Why Conserve
- Water Conservation Inside the Home
- Water Conservation Outside the Home
- Xeriscaping



For more information about the Weber County Storm water quality management program and additional pamphlets, contact:

Weber County Storm Water Management  
 Dr. George S. Burbidge  
 444-24th St. Ogden, UT 84401  
 Office (801)399-8677  
 Fax (801)625-3699  
[www.co.weber.ut.us/stormwater](http://www.co.weber.ut.us/stormwater)

Brochure created by Salt Lake County Engineering Division modified by Weber County Storm Water Management Division

# Spill Response

Dial 911

-or-

State Of Utah  
 Environmental Response  
 (801) 536-4123

Utah Division of Water Quality  
 (801) 538-6146

Local Pollution Control

Agencies:

Environmental Health Division of the  
 Weber/Morgan Health Department  
 (801) 591-7168



1-800-458-0145

Used Oil Recyclers  
 (for DIYers in Weber County)

- Weber County Transfer Station
- Auto Zone Stores
- Checker Auto Parts Stores
- NAPA Auto Parts Stores
- Pep Boys Stores
- Little Tire & Lube
- Jiffy Lube

The preceding list is not all encompassing nor does it constitute an endorsement by Weber County of any particular company

# Water Conservation Inside the Home



*A few ways you can help conserve water in your own home.*

