

# WATER CONSERVATION TIPS FOR CONSUMERS

## Water waste at a average of 40 pounds of pressure

a 1/32" leaks wastes 170 gallons in 24 hours

a 1/16" leak wastes 940 gallons in 24 hours

a 1/8" leak wastes 3600 gallons in 24 hours

### Bathroom

#### Toilets

- Flushing consumes nearly half of the daily household consumption using about 5-7 gallons per flush.
- Check your toilets for leaks; a leak wastes more than 100 gallons of water per day.
- **If you think there is a leak, put a few drops of food coloring in the tank, if the bowl water shows color without flushing there is a leak and repairs are needed.**
- Most new toilets use about 3 ½ gallons per flush.
- Toilet dams save about two gallons of water per flush.

#### Bathing

- Bathing usually consumes the second greatest quantity of water.
- Taking a bath uses more water then taking an average shower.
- Long showers waste five to ten gallons of water per day.
- Install water-saving shower heads and don't turn shower on until you are ready to step in.

#### Sinks

- Turn water off while you are shaving, brushing your teeth or washing your face.
- Use an electric razor.

### Kitchen and Laundry

- When buying a washing machine, look for models with water or energy saving controls.
- Adjust your washing machine level for the size of the load of clothes that you are washing.
- When washing dishes by hand, use the drain stopper in the sink and only turn water back on to rinse the dishes.
- Add ¼ to ½ cup of vinegar to your wash water, this will cut down the grease faster and better than hot water alone.
- Only run your dishwasher with a full load. Each load uses about 25 gallons of water, so make sure each load counts.
- Don't run water when peeling vegetables; rinse them afterwards.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator to have cool water on hand.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks; many leaks can be repaired with inexpensive washers.
- Check your water softener to be sure it is not leaking or cycling more than is should be

### Lawn and Yard

- When watering, do it in the early morning or the evening when the sun has gone down as the sun evaporates water.
- Average sprinkler heads use 3 ½ gallons of water per head, per minute.
- Set your underground sprinklers to not water when it is raining.
- Be sure outside faucets are turned off after use.