

How Can I Lower My Bill?



<u>Normal Activity</u>	<u>Normal Consumption</u>	<u>Conservative Modifications</u>
Shower	25-50 gallons.(Between 5 10 gallons a minute)	Wet down, turn the water off, soap up, turn the water back on and rinse. (about 5 gallons)
Tub Bath	36 Gallons for Full Tub	A less full Tub-as little as 10-12 gallons.
Toilet Flush	5 – 7 gallons	Install a ½ flush device. (3-5 gallons)
Tooth Brushing	3 – 5 gallons if you leave The tap running	Wet the brush; turn off the water; brush; turn the water back on to rinse. (1pint)
Hand Washing	2 – 5 gallons if you leave the tap running.	Fill the basin; turn off the water to wash, and turn the water back on to rinse briefly. (1 Gallon)
Shaving	3 – 5 gallons if you leave the tap running.	Fill the basin; turnoff The water to shave, and turn the water back on to rinse briefly. (1 Gallon)
Dish Washing By hand	Up to 20 gallons if you leave the water running	Use wash and rinse basins or dishpans. (About 5 gallons)
Clothes Washer	Full Cycle uses 30-60 gallons.	Use the light soil or Short cycle on your washing machine.

How do I find a leak?

Most leaks result from worn washers in faucets and showerheads. All faucets (including those seldom used such as utility sinks) should be checked periodically. Repairing faucets is easy: just shut off the water supply to that particular faucet, replace the washer, and turn on the water supply again.

Toilet leaks tend to be less obvious than faucet leaks, but they can waste a significant amount of water if not tended to. If water is still running into the toilet bowl after it has stopped filling from the flush cycle, or if you can hear water running after the cycle is complete, your toilet is leaking.

Most toilet leaks occur at the overflow pipe or at the plunger ball inside the tank. To locate these kinds of leaks, remove the tank lid and flush the toilet. The water level should come to roughly a half-inch below the overflow pipe. Try adjusting the float level control screw so that the valve shuts off the water at the proper level. If the valve itself is leaking you may need to contact a plumber.

Although water may not be seen or heard running, your toilets may have a silent leak. To test for this, put a few drops of food coloring into the tank, but DO NOT FLUSH. If, after about 10 minutes, traces of the food coloring appear in the toilet bowl, your toilet has a silent leak. The leak is most likely to be located in or around the plunger ball or flapper valve at the bottom of the tank. These leaks are easy to fix with parts available at your home improvement or hardware store.

*****Just a reminder*****

It’s easy to overlook a hose that wasn’t turned off completely, and thousands of gallons of water can be wasted that way in just over a period of a few months. Remember to include those outside faucets and hoses on your regular “water inspection.” A little detective work several times a year can catch these water thieves in the act and put them out of circulation.

A continuous leak from a hole this size at an average household water pressure of 60 psi would, over a three month period, result in the waste listed

Diameter of Stream in:	Waste per Quarter at 60 psi water pressure in:				
	Gallons per min.	Per 1 hour	Per day	Per week	Per 30 month
1/8(.13)		7.8	187	1,310	5,616
1/4(.25)		15	360	2,520	10,800
1/2(.50)		30	720	5,040	21,600
1(1)		60	1,440	10,080	43,200