

CONSERVATION = SAVINGS

Total Savings Outside: 97,566 gallons/year!

~ **Irrigation** Save as much as 17,566 gallons per year by installing a weather-sensitive controller, avoiding over-watering, installing drip systems, not letting the hose run between tasks, and fixing leaks right away.

~ **Landscaping** Save as much as 80,000 gallons per year by removing an average-sized lawn (about 1,000 square feet) and replacing it with desert-smart landscaping. Replacing any water-thirsty plants with drought-tolerant, desert-smart plants can save you many thousands of gallons each year.

Total Savings Inside: 28,105 gallons/year!

~ **Bathroom** Save up to 14,600 gallons per year by using low-flush toilets, low-flow shower heads, and fixing toilet and faucet leaks.

~ **Kitchen** Save as much as 5,475 gallons per year by installing faucet aerators, not letting the water run while cleaning dishes, fixing leaks right away, using the short cycle on your dishwasher and only washing full loads of dishes.

~ **Laundry** Save up to 8,030 gallons per year by using a high-efficiency clothes washer, using shorter cycles when possible and only washing full loads.

Total Savings = up to 125,671 gallons per year!

For more information about water conservation and water-wise landscaping in Southern California visit:

www.mojavewater.org/awac---our-mission.html

www.h2ouse.net

www.bewaterwise.com

www.powerofplants.com

SHARE THE MANY BENEFITS OF HIGH-DESERT WATER CONSERVATION



~ USE LESS WATER
~ SAVE MORE MONEY
~ SPEND LESS TIME



IT'S EASIER THAN YOU THINK TO SAVE WATER IN AND AROUND YOUR HOME.

SMALL CHANGES = BIG SAVINGS!



Dear Neighbors,

We all know how important water is to our everyday lives. Without it, none of us could survive. But our local water supply in the High Desert is struggling to keep up with population growth. When water is pumped out of the ground faster than it's replaced, it creates a dangerous condition called overdraft.

The good news is that we all have a part in protecting this precious resource. By practicing water conservation indoors and outdoors, you can help ensure that there is a stable water supply for generations to come. Here are some tips to help you with simple and effective ways to conserve water.

Sincerely,
Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation

HOW TO CONSERVE WATER INDOORS

Bathroom

Up to two-thirds of indoor water use occurs in the bathroom.

1- **Install high-efficiency toilets.** If your toilets were installed before 1994, consider replacing them with high-efficiency units, which can save a huge amount of water each month. They can cut your family's total indoor water use by as much as 24 gallons per day or over 700 gallons per month. That's a lot of water and a lot of savings!

2- **Check for toilet leaks.** Place a few drops of food coloring in the tank of your toilet. Check the bowl in 15 minutes. If colored water appears in the bowl, you have a leak. The problem can usually be fixed by adjusting the float or replacing the flapper. This only takes a few minutes but can save many gallons of water each day.

3- **Install low-flow showerheads.** New models provide a vigorous spray yet save water and the energy to heat it. You could save up to 20 gallons each day. That's 600 gallons of savings each month! Not only that, but you'll save even more because you won't have to heat as much water.

4- **Check for leaking faucets throughout the house.** Even little leaks add up in a hurry. A drip that totals only 2 tablespoons a minute comes to 15 gallons a day. That's 105 gallons a week and 5,460 wasted gallons a year. Just think of all the money you could save by fixing that leak!



Kitchen

Kitchen faucets and dishwashers can use significant amounts of water.

- 1- Use low-flow faucet aerators.
- 2- Do not leave the water running while you clean dishes.
- 3- Fix faucet leaks right away.
- 4- Use the short cycle on your dishwasher.
- 5- Only wash full loads of dishes.

Laundry

- 1- Purchase a high-efficiency clothes washer.
- 2- Always wash full loads of clothes.
- 3- Use the shorter cycles when possible.

HOW TO CONSERVE WATER OUTDOORS

UP TO 70% OF OUR RESIDENTIAL WATER USE TAKES PLACE OUTDOORS.

Installing a water-smart landscape is the best way to conserve water where we use it most, leading to quick savings of both water and money. A good water-smart landscape can increase your property value, and reduce water and maintenance costs by up to 60%.

Here are 10 things you can do to save water outside:

- 1-**Water in the early morning or late evening** to prevent loss from wind and evaporation.
- 2-**Adjust watering times** for seasonal changes.
- 3-**Avoid runoff.** If water is running off your lawn during watering, adjust your sprinkler heads and break up watering times into shorter periods to allow the water to sink into the soil.
- 4-**Don't water paved surfaces.** Position your sprinklers so that water does not land on sidewalks, driveways or other hardscape areas. Also, sweep paved surfaces with a broom instead of hosing them down.
- 5-**Avoid over watering.** Water your lawn only when it needs it. A good way to see if your lawn needs water is to step on it. If the grass springs back when you move your foot, it doesn't need water.
- 6-**Install drip irrigation** wherever possible. Drip irrigation is the most efficient method of watering for non-turf areas such as bedded plants, trees or shrubs.

- 7-**Fix leaks right away.** Check your irrigation system and every faucet, hose, pipe and coupling around your house for leaks.
- 8-**Place mulch around trees and plants.** A 2-inch layer of mulch will slow the evaporation of moisture, reduce runoff, moderate soil temperatures, reduce erosion, slow weed growth, prevent soil compaction, make shrubs and young trees more tolerant of heat, and beautify your landscape.
- 9-**Check for broken irrigation lines.** Turn your irrigation system on periodically to check for broken sprinkler heads. If you come across an extra soft area while walking through your lawn, you may have a broken irrigation pipe.
- 10-**Don't run the hose.** Make sure your hose has a shut-off nozzle so that you can easily turn the flow of water on and off as needed instead of simply letting the hose run non-stop. Also, remember that the hose and sprinklers are not toys for children.

HOW AND WHEN TO WATER YOUR LAWN

Strive to minimize your water use while maintaining healthy turf.

- Use the “cycle and soak” system – For each day that you water, irrigate your lawn 3 times a day for 4 minutes, scheduling start times at least 1 hour apart. This allows your lawn to absorb the water more efficiently than running the sprinklers for 12 consecutive minutes.
- Using the “cycle and soak” system, begin watering no later than 3:00 am from May to October to minimize water lost to evaporation. Water during the warmer part of the day from November to April to prevent water from freezing on your landscape.
- Aim for “head to head” coverage in your sprinkler system, meaning the spray of one sprinkler should reach the head of the nearest sprinkler.
- Make sure you direct your sprinkler heads so that they don't spray walls, driveways, or sidewalks.
- Check your sprinkler system weekly and immediately replace broken or missing parts.
- Avoid watering when it's windy or rainy. Shutting off the sprinklers when it's raining can save hundreds of gallons of water a day.



Did you know?

- Warm season grasses, such as Bermuda, require about one-third less water.
- Shaded areas of your lawn require about 30% less water.
- Watering shrubs, trees, and flowers with bubblers or drip irrigation instead of with lawn sprinklers saves water and encourages deeper roots for healthier growth and less water need.

HAVE A BEAUTIFUL YARD AND CONSERVE ALL AT ONCE!



- Place trees and shrubs for summer shade and winter sun
- Use mulch, mulch and more mulch in order to seal in moisture and prevent weeds
- Replace thirsty lawns with drought-tolerant or native plants and drip irrigation
- Develop plant zones, grouping plants according to irrigation needs
- Limit turf areas to meet functional needs
- Replace labor-intensive plants with low-water-use shrubs and groundcover
- Install hardscapes such as driveways and paths for practical and recreational uses