

# WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

#### **KITCHEN**

- •Don't use water to defrost foods.
- •Only run full loads in the dishwasher.
- •Use shorts blasts of water to rinse dishes instead of running water.
- •Don't run the tap to get cool drinking water, refrigerate beforehand.

#### **OUTDOORS/LANDSCAPING**

- •Sweep driveways instead of hosing them off.
- •Install a "smart" irrigation controller.
- Set your lawn mower blade to its highest setting to encourage deep roots.
- •Use mulch to retain soil moisture.
- Choose water efficient landscaping.

- •Check and adjust sprinklers to make sure they are not watering the pavement.
- •Use drip irrigation or soaker hoses.
- Find leaks by checking your water meter.
- •Water twice a week between 4:00pm-10:00am on your assigned days.

#### **SWIMMING POOL**

- •Use a pool cover to reduce evaporation.
- Lower water level in your pool to reduce the water splashed out.
- Install a watersaving pool filter.



#### **VEHICLES**

- •Wash your car at home using a bucket of water.
- When using a hose, control the water with an automatic shutoff nozzle.
- •Take your car to a car wash that uses recycled water.

#### **PLUMBING**

- Insulate water pipes to get hot water more quickly.
- •Run on the minimum amount of regenerations on water softening systems.
- Use an instant water heater for the kitchen sink.

#### **BATHROOM**

- Switch to high-efficiency toilets and low-flow shower-heads.
- •Turn off water while you are brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Swap a 15 minute shower for a 5 minute shower.

#### **LAUNDRY**

- Wash full loads of laundry or use appropriate load selection for smaller loads.
- Use shorter cycles and less rinse.
- •Replace older machines with energy efficient ones.

## HOW MUCH WATER ARE YOU USING?

ACTIVITY	TYPICAL USE	CONSERVATION TIP
Showering	20-50 gallons for 5-10 minutes	Reduce Length of Shower
Brushing Teeth	2 gallons if water is left running	Turn water off while brushing
Bath Tub	36 gallons for a full tub Reduce water level	
Shaving	20 gallons if water is left running	Fill sink or basin
Washing Dishes (Hand Washing)	20 gallons with running water Use water efficient dishwashe	
Washing Dishes (Automatic)	7-15 gallons for full cycle Wash only full loads	
Flushing Toilet	3-5 gallons per flush Use ultra low flush toilet	
Washing Machine	30 gallons for full cycle Use short cycle and only full loads	
Hose Watering	5-10 gallons per minute Water twice a week from 4pm-10a	
Sprinklers	1,200 gallons for 5 minutes daily	Water twice a week from 4pm-10am on your assigned days

## HOW MUCH LEAKS WASTE WATER

LEAK SOURCE	TYPICAL LEAKAGE	GALLONS PER MONTH USED	HCF UNITS PER MONTH USED*
Running Toilet	1 gallon per minute	43,200	58
Leaking Faucet	1 drip per second	259	.3
In-Ground Irrigation	1/32" in diameter	6,300	8
Overflow Tube in Toilet Tank	1/4" in diameter	216,600-259,200	290-347
Garden Hose Left Running	1/2" in diameter	433,200-518,400	579-693

<sup>\*1</sup> Unit (HCF) = 748 Gallons of Water

### HOW TO READ YOUR WATER METER

Your meter is located in a small concrete meter vault in front of the property near the street (it may look different than the one pictured here). The meter reads water usage in cubic feet (100 cubic feet = 748 gallons). The red needle spins clockwise as water passes through the meter. One full revolution represents .001 cubic foot of water consumed (numbers are read right to lef). This dial is also a leak detection indicator that moves when very small amounts of water pass through the meter. If appliances, fixtures and irrigation equipment are turned off and the dial is moving rapidly, chances are you have a leak on the property.

