



Water Conservation Tips

Efficient use of water, through behavioral, operational, or equipment changes, if practiced broadly, can help mitigate the effects of drought.^{10,11}

Indoor Water Conservation Tips

- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Take short showers instead of tub baths. Turn off the water while soaping or shampooing.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the faucet until the water's cold.
- Do not use water to defrost frozen foods; thaw in the refrigerator overnight.
- Scrape, rather than rinse, dishes before loading into the dishwasher; wash only full loads.
- Wash only full loads of laundry or use the appropriate water level or load size.
- Repair all leaks. To detect leaks in the toilet, add food coloring to the tank water. If the colored water appears in the bowl, the toilet is leaking.

Outdoor Water Conservation Tips

- Detect and repair all leaks in irrigation system.
- Water the lawn or garden during the coolest part of the day (early morning is best). Do not water on windy days.
- Set sprinklers to water the lawn or garden only— not the street or sidewalk.
- Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose, so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it off at the faucet to avoid hose connection leaks.
- Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches, or to its highest level. A higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the roots and holds soil moisture.
- Use mulch around shrubs and garden plants to reduce evaporation from the soil surface and to cut down on weed growth.



Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Division of Public Health

Climate and Health Program

P-00884b (Rev. 05/2019)