



Using Less Water Inside Your Home!



Generally speaking, we can all do more to conserve water! The average Westside resident uses 789 litres of water every day! If you had to collect that, you'd need to make 98 trips with a full four-litre jug in each hand. Our water use is well above the British Columbia average of almost 500 litres a day and more than double the Canadian average of 374 litres per person each day.

So there's plenty of room for improvement. And much of that improvement can take place with some simple changes to how you and your family use water around your home. In fact, we can easily cut consumption by as much as 40 percent, reducing the stress on our environment and the need for expensive investments in water system infrastructure.

The Bathroom!

When it comes to water use, close to 70 percent of all the water used in a house flows through the bathroom faucets and toilet tank! Try these conservation tips:

- Install water-saving showerheads and aerators on bathroom taps and faucets.
- Take shorter showers or use less water when you use the bathtub.
- Turn off the water when shampooing your hair, shaving or brushing your teeth. Shaving with the water running consumes 80 litres of water, while brushing your teeth with a free flowing faucet sees 8 litres go down the drain!
- Flush toilets less often.
- Repair leaky toilets and faucets. Even a minor leak can waste 66 litres a day!

The Kitchen!

Cut, cut, chop, chop, some changes here can save a lot!

- Install aerators on kitchen taps.
- Repair leaky faucets. Dripping taps can waste as much as 300 litres of water a week!
- Wash vegetables and fruit in a pan rather than under a running tap. Use the water that's left over for your houseplants or garden.
- Keep a jug of water in your fridge, rather than running the faucet. A faucet uses between seven and 12 litres of water each minute.
- Wash dishes by hand!
- Scrape leftover food from dishes before putting them in the dishwasher.
- Run your dishwasher only when it is full. A dishwasher can use up to 88 litres of water per load!

The Laundry!

You can really clean up here with some of these tips!

- Repair leaky taps.
- Wash your clothes only when they are dirty and when you can do a full load. If you have different load size settings, please use them to match the amount of water needed!

For more Water Smart Conservation Tips, check out these resources from Environment Canada:

Water Wise Tips for Bathrooms

www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/info/pubs/brochure/e_IWDWW3.htm

Water Wise Tips for Kitchens and Laundry

www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/info/pubs/brochure/e_IWDWW4.htm

