

INDOOR WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

*An average person in the United States uses 125-150 gallons of water per day for cooking, washing, flushing, and watering; this is **over 40% more** than we need to accomplish these tasks!*

Bathroom About 75% of indoor water use is in the bathroom. See how much you can reduce your use with these tips:

💧 Displace water in the toilet tank by filling a plastic quart bottle with enough rock and water to make it sink. (Using bricks is no longer suggested, they can crumble and clog plumbing) Place the bottle where it won't interfere with the internal plumbing OR, use at Toilet Tank Bank free from the City of Bellingham.

Savings: **3-25** gallons per person/day.

💧 Check the flow rate of your showerhead. Install a low-flow showerhead that is 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm) or less— they cost as little as ten dollars and take less than five minutes to install.

Savings: **2-6** gallons/minute



💧 When you run water to warm it up before stepping in the shower, put a bucket under the tap, and use it to water your plants.

💧 Use pause switches or turn water off while soaping up. Lather body and wash hair while water is paused, then rinse all at once.

Savings: **2-6** gallons/minute



💧 Install a low-flow faucet aerator, which mixes air with the water to keep the pressure high while using less water. They're cheap and easy to install yourself!

Savings: **5** gallons/day

💧 Turn off the water when you're brushing your teeth or shaving.

Savings: **3** gallons/minute

The City of Bellingham offers FREE Water Conservation Kits to its water customers. These contain a low-flow showerhead, low-flow faucet aerator for the bathroom and kitchen, toilet displacement bag, and plumbing tape. If you would like a FREE Water Conservation Kit, please call 676-6850.

Kitchen

💧 Wait to run the dishwasher until it's full. Use shorter wash cycles. If you're looking to buy a new one, some Energy Star dishwashers will use less water.

Savings: 9-33 gallons/load



💧 Instead of running water over frozen foods, thaw foods in the refrigerator ahead of time or in the microwave.

Savings: 3 gallons/minute

💧 Rather than letting the water run, fill one side of the sink with soapy wash water and fill the other with rinse water. If you don't have two sinks, use a big pot or bowl for rinsing.

Savings: 3 gallons/minute



Laundry

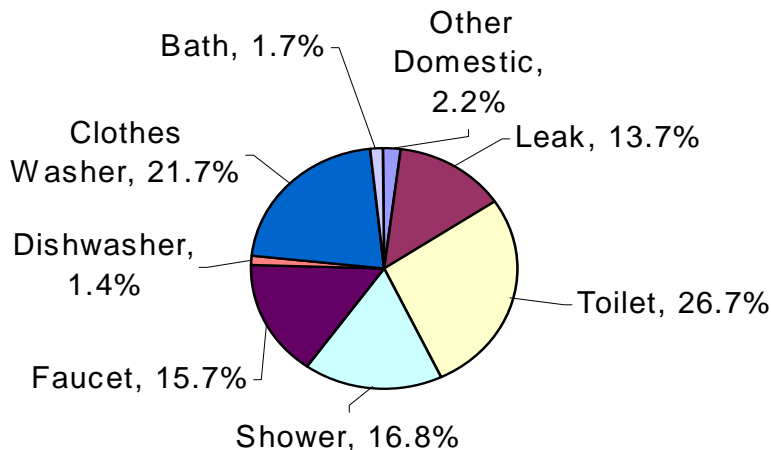
💧 Run washing machines on shorter cycles at minimal water levels and only with full loads.

Savings: 33 gallons/load

💧 Upgrade to a front-loading washing machine. They use up to 40% less water and up to 60% less energy than top-loading machines. They get your clothes cleaner, too!

Savings: 5-30 gallons/load

Indoor Water Use Per Capita



The largest water usage in the home comes from the:

- toilet
- clothes washer
- shower

Focus on replacing these fixtures with low-flow devices, which will significantly decrease your daily water consumption. As technology has increased substantially for water-saving devices, you will have several options to choose from, at an affordable price.

