

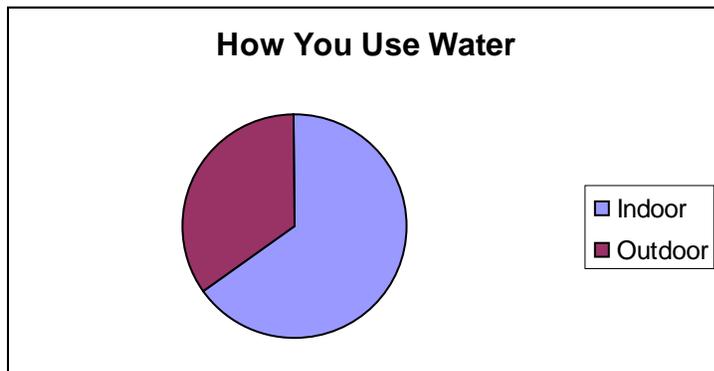


Steamboat II Metropolitan District

WEEKLY WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

As things get drier and drier this summer, we wanted to share with you a weekly tip on how you can conserve water in the home and business. And don't forget, efficient water use saves you MONEY!

Outdoor Water Efficiencies



Average households use three times as much water in the summer as the winter.

Week 1: Are you irrigating wisely?

A common misnomer for irrigating landscapes is that "more is better". Avoid over-watering which is not only wasteful, it is also unhealthy for plants.

Tip 1: A rule of thumb for our area for bluegrass turf is to water once in the morning (before 9am), once in the evening (after 7pm) every other day or even every third day at 1" – 1 ½" per week.

Tip 2: Most of our soils have a lot of clay and need slow water delivery for proper infiltration - a maximum of ½ inch per hour. Select rotary nozzles that use stream spray with multi trajectory, slow delivery.

Tip 3: Using a smart controller, ET based controller, wireless rain sensors, and/or adjusting timers properly saves water and results in healthier turf and plants.

Tip 4: Change irrigated turf to native or low-water plants and grasses and incorporate other xeriscape practices such as soil conditioning and mulching.

To find out how you or your business can qualify for irrigation efficiency or xeriscape rebates, contact Mount Werner Water at 879-2424 or Lyn Halliday, Environmental Solutions at 879-6323.

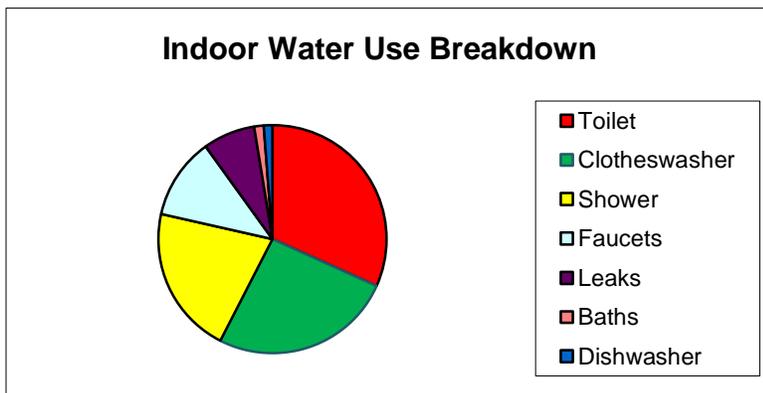
Additional Tips for Landscaping

- Make sure the irrigation system is operating properly.
- Replace broken or missing sprinkler heads.
- Make sure the spray heads turn properly.
- Adjust heads so that water does not reach streets and driveways.
- Check nozzles for plugging or interference.
- Place straight-sided containers (such as tuna fish cans) around the yard during irrigation and measure water depth so that you know how long it takes to apply ¼ to ½ inch of water.
- Place containers on persistent dry spots to determine if poor sprinkler coverage is the problem.
- Never water if the soil is still wet.

Other Outdoor water saving tips:

- Use a broom instead of a hose to sweep your driveway and you can save between 50 and 80 gallons of water.
- Use porous materials for patios and walkways to reduce runoff.
- If you must wash your car, use a car wash that recycles water instead of washing your car in the driveway. If that is not possible, wash your car on the lawn so you can simultaneously water your grass. Use a bucket instead of a hose.

Indoor Water Use - Breaking it down:



Week 2: You've waited long enough!

Over 25% of indoor water use in households is flushed down the toilet!

If you still have an old pre-1993 water guzzling toilet, it's time to upgrade.

These old toilets use 3.5 – 8 gallons per flush. The newer toilets use less than 1.6 gal/flush. That means an average family can save 14,000-25,000 gallons per year!

Visit mwwater.com or call 879-2424 to see if you qualify for a rebate on the purchase of a WaterSense™ approved toilet.

Here are some toilet tips:

- reduce flushes by only using the toilet for what it is intended, not as a wastebasket;
- a leaking toilet can waste hundreds of gallons per month. Check for leaks and fix them immediately. If food coloring dropped in your tank makes it to the bowl, you have a leak!

Week 3: Shower Power.

Have you replaced your old shower heads with more efficient models - ideally less than 2 gallons per minute?

How long is your shower? Do you really need to take a ten minute shower? Even with an efficient shower head, a five minute shower uses around 12 gallons of water.

Week 4: Clothes washing efficiency.

Did you know that a conventional clothes washer uses between 35-50 gallons per load? The newer front loading machines use less than half of that. Call 879-2424 or visit mwwater.com to see if you qualify for a rebate to purchase a water efficient clothes washer.

Below are some tips to be more efficient:

- Run the washing machine only when you have a full load of clothes.
- For lightly soiled laundry loads, use the shortest wash cycle.
- To avoid washing twice, pre-treat stains on your clothes.
- Select the minimum water volume per load if your washer has a variable water volume setting.
- Regularly check washing machine hoses for leaks.

Week 5: Dishing it up.

Install a high efficiency dishwasher and cut your water use in half. Call 879-2424 or visit mwwater.com to see if you qualify for a rebate to purchase a water efficient dishwasher.

Tips for more efficient use:

- Run the dishwasher only when it's full and save up to 1,000 gallons of water per month.
- Keep pre-rinsing to a minimum.
- Running a full dishwasher uses less water than washing the same number of dishes by hand.

Week 6: Everyday Common Sense.

Don't run the water when brushing your teeth. This common sense advice also applies to all wasteful practices. Only use what you need!

FOR MORE TIPS visit www.mwwater.com

PHOTOS and TESTIMONIALS TO FOLLOW