

## ADDITIONAL WATER SAVING TIPS

- Adjust the amount of water used in the washing machine according to load size. Approximate savings 300-500 gallons a month.
- When replacing an appliance, especially washing machines, buy those that have water saving features.
- Water softeners should only be installed when necessary. Save water and salt by running the minimum amount of regenerations necessary to maintain softness. When on vacation turn off your water softener.



- Install a water efficient dishwasher and only run when it is full.

- When washing dishes by hand and that's the best way, don't leave the water running for rinsing. If you have a double sink stopper one side with rinse water.



- Don't use running water to thaw meat or thaw frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave. Saves 50-150 gallons a month.
- Store drinking water in the fridge. Don't let the tap run while you are waiting for cool water to flow this is wasteful. Saves 50-150 gallons a month.

## COMMUNITY WATER SAVING TIPS

- Support efforts and programs that create a concern for water conservation among tourists and visitors to Smyrna. Be sure that visitors understand the need for, and benefits of, water conservation.
- Participate in water conservation projects in the schools.
- Encourage your employer to promote water conservation in the workplace, perhaps through employee training programs.



- Report all significant water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers) to property owners or local authorities.
- Be aware of and follow all Smyrna water conservation suggestions. Never assume that you do not need to observe good water-use rules.

- Try to do one thing every day that will result in saving water. Don't worry if the savings are minimal.



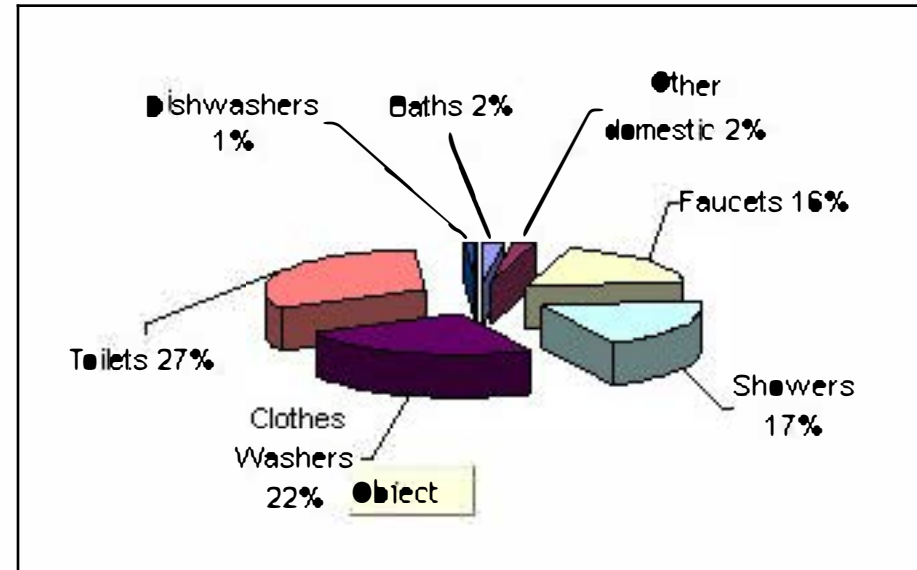
You can make a difference!



EVERY DROP COUNTS

## Water Facts

The average U. S. household uses 350 gallons of water per day, according to the American Water Works Association. Depending on the region, households use 20 to 60 percent of that total outdoors on lawns, pools and such. Saving water outdoors can really make a dent. Indoors, homeowners, can reduce water use by about 30 percent by installing more efficient water fixtures and regularly checking for leaks. Here is where water goes inside our homes (numbers are rounded):



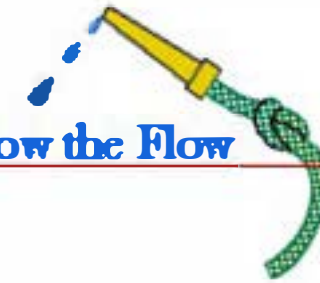
## Helpful websites for Water Conservation tips:

[www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org)  
[www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)  
[www.irrigation.org](http://www.irrigation.org)  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)  
[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)

For more detailed tips for Water Conservation please visit the Town of Smyrna website at [www.townofsmyrna.org](http://www.townofsmyrna.org) go to Water Treatment Plant click on "Tips on Saving Water".

## City of Manchester Water System

## WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM



Let's Slow the Flow of Smyrna H<sub>2</sub>O!!

## WATER..... OUR RESOURCE FOR LIFE USE IT WISELY!

Manchester is growing.....

With each day new demands are placed on our Town's services. Today is a great time to start to become good stewards of our water supply to meet the demands of tomorrow.

### Why Conserve Water?

What could be more plentiful than water?

Like many things around us we tend to take for granted what seems plentiful and easily obtained. All we do to get water is turn on the faucet any time and there it is ready to use...right? Think again...Drinkable water doesn't just magically flow to our homes and businesses. Water comes to your home after a lengthy treatment process and traveling through miles and miles of pipe. Water is an extremely valuable resource and shouldn't be wasted. We must closely look at our water use.

Growing concern for our environment has increased federal and state demands on our local water treatment plants. This increases the costs that the Town of Smyrna must charge its utility customers. With rising costs for water and sewer services, CONSERVATION is a great way for our citizens to help their wallets as well as the environment. Whether water is used wisely or wasted, you pay for every drop....practicing water conservation just makes good sense.

Let's get started.....



## WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER

This brochure contains some simple, painless ways to help you start a Conservation Program for your home or business using just four basic steps without altering your lifestyle.

### The "4" Basic Steps for a Home/Business Water Conservation Program

#### # 1 BE WATER WISE

Evaluate your water habits. A lot of water is wasted because we have always thought water is plentiful and cheap. Most important—THINK about the water you use. Be conscious of the amount of water you use and look for ways to use less whenever possible.

#### # 2 REPAIR THOSE LEAKS

One of the great enemies of a good water conservation program are **LEAKS**. You can waste 2,400 gallons a year with a leak of just one drop per second. Fix that leak don't ignore it!

#### # 3 REUSE WATER

Used or unused water can most often be used for other purposes with no treatment or filtration, so don't throw it out. In a severe drought reusing water is a necessity. Don't just let that unused water go down the drain make the most of it.

#### # 4 INSTALL WATER SAVING DEVICES

Water saving devices can be purchased and easily installed to reduce your water consumption. By investing a little money, time and labor you can reap big pay-backs by installing these water saving devices to reduce water use.

**BE A WATER MISER!**



## SAVE WATER INDOORS

### Bathroom Tips

- ◆ Take shorter showers. A four minute shower uses about 20-40 gallons of water. Try a "Navy" shower; get wet, turn off the water, soap and scrub, turn the water on and rinse.
- ◆ In the shower, instead of increasing the hot or cold water to adjust the water temperature, decrease the flow to get the desirable temperature.
- ◆ Replace your shower head with a low-flow version you can save 2.5 gallons per minute.
- ◆ Take showers instead of baths as showers use less water.
- ◆ In the bath, use the minimum amount of water needed by closing the drain first and filling the tub only 1/3 full. The initial burst can be warmed by adding hot water later. Use less water for your bath and save up to 220 gallons per month.
- ◆ When brushing your teeth or shaving DON'T let the water run. This will save 3 gallons each per day.
- ◆ Low flush toilets or toilet tank fillers can use up to 50% less water per flush.
- ◆ Don't use your toilet as a trashcan. Place those cigarette butts and trash in your trashcan. Each time you flush you could waste approximately 2-7 gallons.



### Leaks — Check & Repair

- ◆ Verify that your home is leak free. You could have hidden leaks.
- ◆ Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same there is a leak.
- ◆ Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. A small drip from a worn washer can waste 20 gallons per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons. This adds to the cost of water and sewer utilities.
- ◆ Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking a color will appear in toilet bowl within 30 minutes. (Flush immediately after the test is done to prevent staining)



### Reuse That Water

- ◆ Reuse fish tank water on your plants it makes great fertilizer too.
- ◆ Before letting water go down the drain use it for watering your plants or for cleaning.



### Install Water Saving Devices

- ◆ Install a displacement device in your toilet tank this could save 5-7 gallons per day, that's up to 700 gallons per month, even more for large families.
- ◆ Retrofit all wasteful household faucets including shower heads by installing aerators with flow restrictors.



## SAVE WATER OUTDOORS



- ◆ Water lawns during the early morning hours when the temperatures are at the lowest of the day. This reduces losses from evaporation and saves up to 300 gallons each time.
- ◆ Don't over-water your lawn. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every 5 to 7 days in the summer and every 10 to 14 days in the winter. Most lawns only need about 1 inch of rain a week; buy a rain gauge to measure rainfall.
- ◆ Cut down watering on cool and overcast days; don't water in the rain. Adjust or deactivate automatic sprinklers. Can save up to 300 gallons each time.
- ◆ Position sprinklers so that water is aimed towards the lawn, not the street, driveway or walkways.
- ◆ Avoid watering on windy days. There is too much evaporation. Can waste up to 300 gallons in one watering.
- ◆ Do not leave sprinklers unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more water in only a few hours. Use a kitchen timer to monitor usage.
- ◆ Install micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses to help maximize conservation.
- ◆ Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. Fertilizer applications increase the need for water. Apply fertilizers which contain slow-release, water soluble forms of nitrogen.
- ◆ Raise the lawn mower blade to three inches or more: Taller grass encourages deeper root systems and holds soil moisture better than shorter grass.
- ◆ Apply mulch to retain moisture and control water-consuming weeds.
- ◆ Plant native grasses or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they do not need water as frequently and usually will survive a dry period without watering.
- ◆ Use a broom to clean leaves and other debris from driveways and walkways. Don't use your water hose.
- ◆ Avoid recreational toys that require a constant stream of water.
- ◆ When washing your car park it on the grass and use a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle. Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water.
- ◆ Check the leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings. Leaks outside the house may not seem as bad since they're not visible; they can be just as wasteful as leaks indoors. Check frequently to keep them drip-free. Use hose washers at spigots and hose connections to eliminate leaks.
- ◆ Use a pool cover to cut down on evaporation to save 1000 gallons a month. Also, consider a new water-saving pool filter. A single backflushing with a traditional filter uses 180-250 gallons of water.

