

# Check the Facts, Follow the Tips!

Save Hundreds of Gallons of Water Per Day.

## FACTS

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### Gallons of Water Wasted Per Day (gpd) by Leaks in Your Bathroom, Kitchen and Laundry:

#### Water Wasted In Your Toilet

- A trickling toilet can waste 30 gpd
- A leaking toilet can waste 250 gpd
- A constantly running toilet can waste 6,000 gpd

#### Water Wasted In Your Tub, Shower, Sink

- A slow drip faucet can waste 36 gpd
- A steady drip faucet can waste 180 gpd
- 1/2 open faucet can waste 1,620 gpd
- A fully opened faucet can waste 3,600 gpd

## TIPS

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### For Saving Water in Your Bathroom:

- When buying a new toilet, consider purchasing a water-saving High-Efficiency Toilet (HET) for better flushing.
- If you can't switch to a water-saving toilet, place a plastic bottle filled with water in your toilet tank, and save ½ gallon per flush. And, only flush when necessary.
- Replace a leaking toilet tank part (flapper and/or refill valve) with a new part that properly fits your toilet.
- Turn off the water supply to your toilet, if you're going on a long vacation.
- Discard sanitary items in the wastebasket (not the toilet), to avoid clogging and having to call a plumber.
- Take short showers instead of baths; save 5-7 gallons a minute.
- If taking a bath, fill the tub halfway; save 10-15 gallons.
- Use a low-flow showerhead; save 2.2 gallons a minute.
- Avoid running the water while brushing your teeth, shaving, or washing hands; save 2-3 gallons a minute.

### Saving Water in Your Kitchen and Laundry:

- Use only a full load when running the dishwasher and washing machine. Save more by using a short cycle.
- When selecting a new washing machine or dishwasher, purchase an Energy Star-certified model; it uses 20-25 gallons per load vs. a standard model, which uses 45-55 gallons per load.
- Install faucet aerators, where applicable, and reduce flow by 1 gallon a minute.
- Instead of running water while washing dishes, which uses 2-3 gallons a minute, fill a basin to wash and rinse dishes and use only 10 gallons.
- Wash fruits/vegetables in a bowl, not under running water.
- Avoid letting water run to make it cold; instead, fill a bottle and chill in refrigerator to be ready for drinking.

### Saving Water When Outdoors:

- Use a self-closing nozzle on your hose when watering your lawn or plants.
- Water your lawn or garden before 9:00 am or after 7:00 pm; avoid over-watering.
- For landscaped areas, buy plants that need little watering.
- Sweep, rather than use water, to clean sidewalks and driveways.

### Saving Water Everywhere:

- Repair leaky faucets and turn off taps tightly.
- Insulate pipes to prevent their freezing from the cold.

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For more water-saving information, please visit DEP'S website at: [www.nyc.gov/dep](http://www.nyc.gov/dep) You can also contact DEP by calling 311, the City's non-emergency government information and services hotline.

