

SURVEY: How Much Water Do You Use?

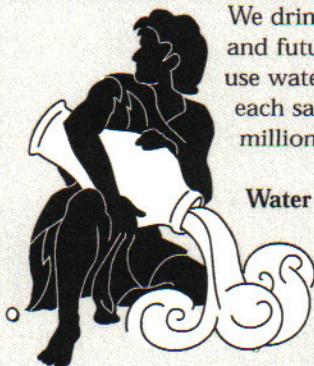
► **DIRECTIONS** This is a survey to find how much water you use in your home during one full week. Place a tally mark in the Times Per Day column every time someone in your family does the activity.

ACTIVITY	TIMES PER DAY							WEEKLY TOTAL	WATER PER ACTIVITY*	TOTAL WATER USED
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat			
Toilet Flushing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 5 gallons = _____	
Short Shower (5-10 minutes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 25 gallons = _____	
Long Shower (>10 minutes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 35 gallons = _____	
Tub Bath	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 35 gallons = _____	
Teeth Brushing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 2 gallons = _____	
Washing Dishes with Running Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 30 gallons = _____	
Washing Dishes Filling a Basin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 10 gallons = _____	
Using Dishwasher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 20 gallons = _____	
Washing Clothes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	_____ x 40 gallons = _____	
								GRAND TOTAL	= _____	

NOTE: Another significant seasonal water use is lawn and garden watering. This survey deals with daily water use in the home, but most of us use additional amounts of water at school, at work, and other places throughout the day.

* These are estimated values.

ALL WATER IS RECYCLED...



We drink the same water that Brontosaurus, Cleopatra, and George Washington did, and future generations will drink that same water. That's why it's important that we use water wisely and protect water supplies whenever and wherever possible. If we each save a small amount of water each day, our combined savings will add up to millions of gallons each year.

Water saved is money saved! Water conservation can save on water and sewer fees. Also, when you use less water, your fuel bills are lower. Even if you use well water, saving water reduces both electric costs and the waste load going into your septic system. Each day, as you drink water and use water, think of things you could do to help conserve and protect it. For starters, here is a list of household water conservation tips. What other tips would you add?

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Bathroom

Two-thirds of the water used in the average home is used in the bathroom, mostly for flushing toilets, showering, and bathing.

- ✓ **Turn off the water when you are not using it.** Don't let it run while you brush your teeth or shave.
- ✓ **Flush the toilet less often.** Put used tissues, trash, hair, paper towels, etc. in the wastebasket instead of flushing them.
- ✓ **Fix leaks and drips.** This is often simply a matter of changing a washer.
- ✓ **Retrofit older plumbing fixtures with flow-reducing devices.**
- ✓ **Take shorter showers.** Less than 5 minutes is adequate; any longer is recreation.
- ✓ **Take baths.** If you like to linger, a partially filled tub uses less water than a shower.

Kitchen and Laundry

- ✓ **Use appliances efficiently.** Run full loads in the dish or clothes washer or, if your appliance has one, use a load selector.
- ✓ **Buy a water saver.** Select new appliances that are designed to minimize water use.
- ✓ **Clean vegetables and fruit efficiently.** Use a vegetable brush to expedite cleaning.
- ✓ **Use garbage grinders as little as possible.** Start a compost pile or give leftovers to a dog, cat, chicken, horse, etc.
- ✓ **Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator.** Avoid running the tap just to cool water for drinking.

Lawn and Garden

- ✓ **Water the lawn and garden only when necessary.** Early morning or evening are the best times. Let grass grow higher in dry weather. Mulch your trees and plants. Avoid watering driveways and sidewalks.
- ✓ **Deep-soak your lawn.** Allow the moisture to soak down to the roots where it does the most good. A light sprinkling evaporates quickly.
- ✓ **Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.** Many beautiful trees and plants thrive with less watering, particularly native species.
- ✓ **Wash your car sensibly.** Clean the car with a pail of soapy water and use the hose only for a quick rinse.