

SAVE OUR WATER

Since water is a limited resource and it is important to each of us every day, water conservation is essential. By following these water conservation tips you can help conserve water every day.

INSIDE THE HOME

Kitchen

- » Wash vegetables in a container, not under running water.
- » Use dishwasher for full loads only.
- » Washing dishes by hand uses more water than a dishwasher. Save up to 24 gallons of water per load by using a dishwasher.

Laundry Room

- » Use washing machine for full loads only. You can save 15–45 gallons per load.
- » Check with your local water agency for any current rebate.

Bathroom

- » Install low-flow shower heads.
- » Take shorter showers. (Showers kept under 5 minutes can save you about 12.5 gallons per shower.)
- » If you take a bath, fill bathtub less than halfway. (You can save 17–25 gallons per bath.)
- » Install a high efficiency (HET) toilet. You can save 6–35 gallons per day. (Check with your local water agency for current rebate.)
- » Install aerators on bathroom faucets. (Most homes built after 1980 already have these features.)
- » Turn water off when brushing teeth, washing hands or shaving.

OUTSIDE THE HOME

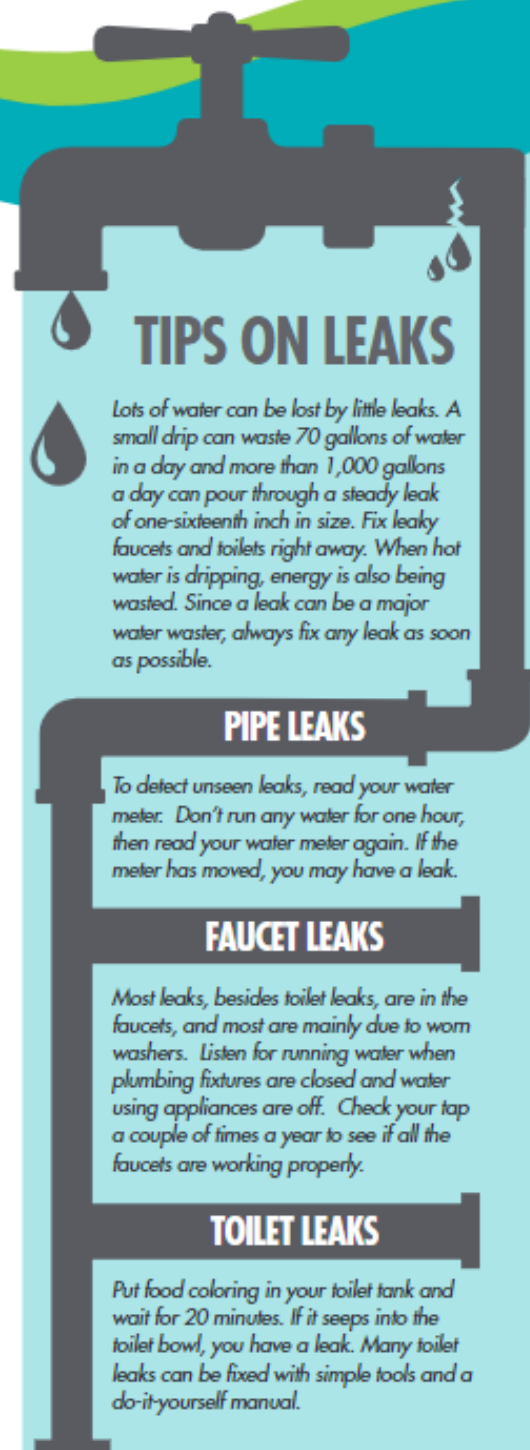
Landscape

- » Water in the morning when it is cooler and use a layer of mulch to help retain soil moisture.
- » Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- » Choose water-efficient irrigation systems such as drip irrigation for your trees, shrubs, and flowers.
- » Water deeply but less frequently to create healthier and stronger landscapes.
- » Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.

- » During extended dry weather, it is important to water your trees. How much water depends on the age of the tree. For tips and additional information visit www.californiareleaf.org

Clean-up

- » Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks, patios and walkways.
- » Wash cars with a bucket, sponge, and hose with self-closing nozzle.



TIPS ON LEAKS

Lots of water can be lost by little leaks. A small drip can waste 70 gallons of water in a day and more than 1,000 gallons a day can pour through a steady leak of one-sixteenth inch in size. Fix leaky faucets and toilets right away. When hot water is dripping, energy is also being wasted. Since a leak can be a major water waster, always fix any leak as soon as possible.

PIPE LEAKS

To detect unseen leaks, read your water meter. Don't run any water for one hour, then read your water meter again. If the meter has moved, you may have a leak.

FAUCET LEAKS

Most leaks, besides toilet leaks, are in the faucets, and most are mainly due to worn washers. Listen for running water when plumbing fixtures are closed and water using appliances are off. Check your tap a couple of times a year to see if all the faucets are working properly.

TOILET LEAKS

Put food coloring in your toilet tank and wait for 20 minutes. If it seeps into the toilet bowl, you have a leak. Many toilet leaks can be fixed with simple tools and a do-it-yourself manual.