



## List of 30

# 30 Ways to Conserve Water

1. **Track your water use** with the free [30 by 30 app](#). How much water do you use in a day?
2. *Shut off the water* while you brush your teeth.
3. Take *short showers* – 5 minutes or less.
4. Use *native and drought-resistant plants* in your home's landscape.
5. Install a *rain barrel* on a downspout at your home. Use the water to irrigate your garden or landscape.
6. Only run **full loads** in the dishwasher.
7. If you wash dishes by hand, **don't let the water run**. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water. <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>
8. *Check for leaks* in your home's toilets – put a drop or two of food coloring in the tank and see if the color seeps into the bowl.
9. Check your faucets and showerheads for drips and leaks, and **fix them right away**.
10. Only *run full loads* in the washing machine.
11. If it's yellow, *let it mellow*. If it's brown, *flush it down*.
12. Install **low flow** showerheads and toilets.
13. When running a bath, *plug the drain* before turning on the water and adjust the temperature as it fills.
14. Install **water-efficient appliances**, such as dishwashers and clothes washers.
15. Water your lawn in the early morning hours to *reduce the amount of water* lost to evaporation.
16. *Water your lawn deeply*, but infrequently.
17. Water only when needed. **Saturate root zones** and let the soil dry. Watering too much and too frequently results in shallow roots, weed growth, disease, and fungus. [https://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Smart\\_Irrigation\\_Month/Consumer\\_Water\\_Wisely.aspx](https://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Smart_Irrigation_Month/Consumer_Water_Wisely.aspx)
18. Keep a pitcher of **water in the fridge** instead of running the water to get it cold.
19. Abide by all local *water conservation ordinances*, voluntary and mandatory.

20. Allow **your lawn to go dormant** in a period of excessive dryness.
21. Mulch, mulch, mulch. Using **2-4 inches of mulch** around plants, bushes, and trees reduces evaporation, regulates soil temperature, and improves water penetration. [https://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Smart\\_Irrigation\\_Month/Consumer\\_Plant\\_Right.aspx](https://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Smart_Irrigation_Month/Consumer_Plant_Right.aspx)
22. *Maintain your yard regularly* – a well-maintained yard requires less water, so weed, prune, and mow as needed. [https://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Smart\\_Irrigation\\_Month/Consumer\\_Plant\\_Right.aspx](https://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Smart_Irrigation_Month/Consumer_Plant_Right.aspx)
23. If you have an irrigation system, ensure that **water is applied to plants**, not the sidewalk or driveway.
24. **Collect the water you use** while rinsing fruit and vegetables, and use it to water house plants. <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>
25. Plug the sink **instead of running the water** to rinse your razor and save up to 300 gallons of water a month. <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>
26. *Monitor your water bill* for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks. <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>
27. Group plants with the **same water needs** together to avoid overwatering some while underwatering others. <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>
28. Use a commercial car wash that **recycles water**. Or, wash your car on the lawn, and you'll water the grass at the same time. <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>
29. Use a **soil moisture sensor** to determine when watering is needed. Better yet, use a sensor that automatically shuts sprinklers off when there's precipitation.
30. Install an instant water heater near your kitchen sink so you don't have to run the water while it heats up. You'll **save water and energy!** <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve>