

Water Saving Tips

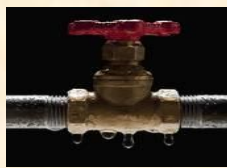
Water is a scarce resource. It is evident from the fact that 97 percent of the total water on the mother earth is saline. Out of remaining 03 percent fresh water 77 percent is in form of glaciers. Only about 11 percent is extractable and 01 percent is only readily available as surface water in rivers and lacks etc.

Therefore water needs to be conserved.

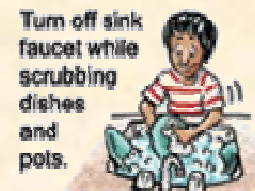
Here are some domestic water saving tips.

Saving Water (Indoors)

- Verify that your home is leak free through pipe line. If having any leakage through pipe line, taps, water tanks etc., it should be attended immediately.
- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at a rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year.
- If the toilet handles frequently sticks in the flush position letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it. Use low flow taps, low capacity cisterns.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.



- Place a bucket in the shower to catch excess water and use this to water plants.
- In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather up; then turn back on to rinse off. Repeat when washing your hair.
- If using washing machine, wash only full load.
- Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods.
- Consider installing an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up. This will reduce water heating costs for your household.
- When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow moving stream from the faucet.
- In case of urinals, automatic flushing cisterns should not be used and only dripping ferrules may be used.

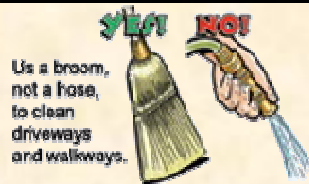
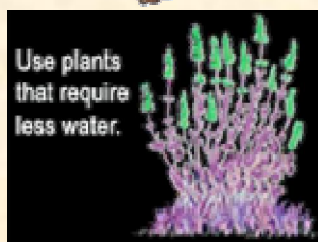


- Never pour down water from the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden, or for cleaning.
- Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face.



Saving Water (Outdoors)

- Plant it smart. Drought efficient landscaping is a great way to design, install and maintain both your plants and irrigation system. More importantly, it will save time, money and water.
- Don't allow sprinklers to water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Position them so that water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not on the paved areas. Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended.
- Install most water efficient irrigation devices e.g. Micro and drip irrigation.



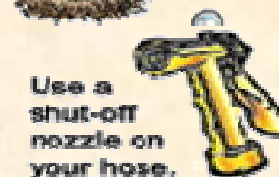
- Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches or to its highest level. A higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than a closely-clipped lawn.



- Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulch also helps control weeds that compete with landscape plants for water.



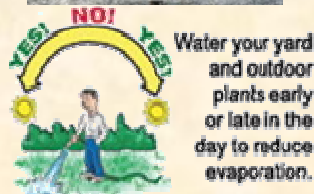
- Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose which can be adjusted down to a fine spray so that water flows only as needed.



- Consider using a commercial car/bike wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car/bike, park on the grass and use a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.

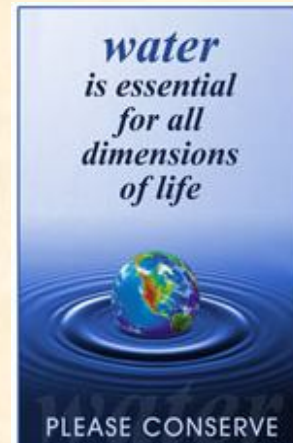


- Avoid purchasing recreational water toys which require a constant stream of water.
- Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. Fertilizer applications increase the need for water.
- Plant those grasses, shrubs and trees that require less water.
- Avoid the installation of ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless the water is recycled.
- Water lawns during the early morning hours when temperatures and wind speed are the lowest. This reduces losses from evaporation.
- Promote rainwater harvesting specially roof top rain water harvesting.



General Water Saving Tips:

- Get involved in water management issues. Voice your questions and concerns at public meetings conducted by your local government or water management district.
- Be aware of and follow all water conservation and water shortage rules in effect in your community. Don't assume -- even if you get your water from a private well - that you need not observe good water use rules. Every drop counts.
- Encourage your employees/colleagues to promote water conservation in the workplace. Suggest that water conservation be put in employee orientation and training programs.



- Report all significant water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers, abandoned free-flowing wells, etc.) to the property owner, local authorities or your water agency.
- Encourage to develop and promote water conservation ethics, among children and adults.
- Ensure the water-meter connection to save the unnecessary wastage of water.
- If we save water we will also save energy as well as money by way of less water requirement and less energy for pumping etc. Few domestic tips as given in this pamphlet and other tips may be adopted to save water.



Disclaimer

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

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