



CONSERVE WATER FOR LIFE

Water...we drink it, swim in it, cook with it, clean with it, grow food with it, fish in it, survive on it, and...we waste it. Only one percent of the earth's water is available to us for drinking. Every drop of water wasted is not only the loss of an invaluable resource, it's a waste of money, energy, the environment and our quality of life. It's not too late to make a difference. Learn how you can be an H₂O Hero today to save for a better tomorrow.

WATER...IT'S A MATTER OF SAVINGS

Water conservation and saving money have a lot in common - the more you save the better your future will be. So every time you turn on the faucet, turn on the hose, do the dishes, take a shower or wash your clothes, think of water as pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters that can add up to hundreds of dollars that can be saved each year. The more water you waste, the more money you spend and the less you have of both.

WATER...IT'S A MATTER OF SURVIVAL

The human body consists of about 60 to 70 percent water. Water regulates body temperature, helps blood circulation, cushions and protects vital organs, converts food to energy, helps our bodies carry and absorb oxygen and nutrients and helps remove harmful wastes. You can't survive without it. To ensure optimal health and proper body functioning we must have an adequate water supply. By wasting water you could be wasting your life.

HOW MUCH WATER CAN AN H₂O HERO SAVE?

Fixing a leaking toilet can save more than 600 gallons of water a month.

Fixing a leaking faucet can save 140 gallons of water a week.

Cutting showers to five minutes or less can save up to 1,000 gallons of water a month.

Running the dishwasher and washing machine with full loads can save 1,000 gallons of water a month.

Taking showers instead of baths saves about 30 gallons of water.

A standard shower head uses about five to seven gallons of water per minute. A low flow shower head reduces water by 50 percent or more.

Using a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways, walkways or patios can save 80 gallons of water.

Turning off water when brushing teeth, washing or shaving can save up to 10 gallons of water a day.

Xeriscaping your lawn can save up to 550 gallons of water a year.

A water saving ultra-low flush model toilet can save up to 14, 000 gallons of water a year.

A covered pool can save 900 to 3,000 gallons of water a month.

If you would like this brochure in an alternate format (large print, audio tape) call 954-828-4746 or e-mail webmaster@fortlauderdale.gov.

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Be an H₂O Hero

Conserve Water!



City of Fort Lauderdale
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H₂O HERO WATER SAVING TIPS



H₂O Instead of pouring water down the drain, reuse it if you can.

H₂O Run your washing machine when there is a full load or set the water level to match the load size.

H₂O Use a sponge mop instead of a string mop. A string mop uses more water.

H₂O Check inside and outside of your home for leaks and make repairs.



KITCHEN

H₂O Run the dishwasher only when there is a full load. Scrape dishes instead of rinsing them.

H₂O Instead of letting the water run when hand washing dishes, use a dishpan or fill the sink with water. Also, use less soap for less rinsing.

H₂O Thaw frozen food in the refrigerator or microwave, not under running water.

H₂O Use a bowl of water to clean and prepare vegetables, rather than letting the faucet run.

H₂O Use your garbage disposal less often and compost instead.

BATHROOM

H₂O Check the toilet for leaks by adding food coloring to your tank. If colored water appears in the bowl after 15 to 30 minutes, the toilet has a leak.



H₂O Replace the toilet handle if it sticks or if it's more than 10 years old.

H₂O Install ultra-low flow toilets or place a half-gallon plastic jug filled with water in the toilet tank. This reduces the amount of water needed to flush by 20 percent.



H₂O Take short showers and install low-flow devices on faucets and shower heads.

H₂O Turn the water off while washing, brushing your teeth, or shaving.

H₂O Flush the toilet only when necessary and don't use it as a wastebasket.

H₂O Close the drain before filling the tub and only fill the tub half full.

H₂O Plug the tub before turning on the water. Adjust the temperature as the tub fills.

H₂O Wash pets outdoors in an area that needs water instead of in the tub.

OUTSIDE

H₂O Xeriscape! Landscape with drought resistant, native plants and group them based on similar water needs.



H₂O Don't over water your lawn. Most of the year, lawns only need one inch of water per week.

H₂O Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil.

H₂O Avoid over fertilizing. Use fertilizers that contain water-insoluble, slow-release, forms of nitrogen.

H₂O Water in the evening or early morning to reduce evaporation. Avoid watering on windy days.

H₂O Install a rain sensor device that overrides your sprinkler system when there is adequate rainfall.

H₂O Install an automatic shutoff nozzle on your hose.



H₂O Position sprinklers so they don't water the pavement.

H₂O Use a broom or blower instead of a hose to remove debris from driveways, sidewalks and porches.

H₂O Cover the pool to reduce evaporation when it's not in use.

Conserve Water for M.E.E. 💧 Money - Energy - Environment