



SAVING WATER

CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE ON YOUR BILL

How much water you use at home depends on a number of things including the size of your household, your use habits and the type of plumbing fixtures that you have in the home.

Some of the largest users of water are lawn sprinklers, automatic irrigation systems, toilets and washing machines.

“Water is a valuable resource that shouldn’t be taken for granted. Fixing leaks and water conservation efforts will not only help you save money on your water bill, but will also help ensure this important commodity is available for future generations.”

*—Chairman Ryan Silvey
Missouri Public Service Commission*

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons of water a year. As an example, a leaky faucet dripping at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. The EPA states the average household’s leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year and 10 percent of the homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more of water a day.

There are a number of things that you can do to conserve water and at the same time save money on your utility bills.

STEPS TO SAVE YOU MONEY

- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Take short showers.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the faucet run until the water is cool.
- Install a water saving showerhead; they use one-third the amount of water that a regular showerhead uses.
- Twist and tighten leaky pipe connections.

WHEN YOU ARE OUTDOORS

- Sweep driveways, steps and sidewalks rather than hosing them off.
- Control the flow of a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.
- Water the lawn or garden during the coolest part of the day and only as needed. Did you know that outdoor water use averages about 117 gallons of water a day?

CHECK FOR WATER LEAKS

Common types of water leaks found in the home include worn toilet flappers, drinking faucets and other leaking valves. According to the EPA, fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills. Silent toilet leaks can be found by putting a few drops of food coloring into the tank and seeing if color appears in the bowl before you flush.

For more information on conserving water, please visit the Public Service Commission website at psc.mo.gov