

Water Savings

The average Philadelphia household uses about 154 gallons of our water each day. You can save at least a third of that, or about \$12 on every water bill, by repairing leaks and by changing some wasteful habits. Read on and learn what to do.



Replace Faucet Washers

Each leaky faucet can waste thousands of gallons of water a year. Replacing a worn washer requires only a five cent new washer and a screwdriver.

Install Flow Restrictors

Flow restrictors belong on all bathroom and kitchen faucets. Each one can save you up to 5,000 gallons, or about \$10 every year.



Repair Running Toilets

The Toilet is the biggest water user. If you hear your toilet constantly running, remove the tank lid and lightly pull up the float arm. If this shuts off the flow, then gently bend the arm down and/or adjust set screws. If the tank leaks into the toilet when it's not being flushed then replace the stopper. The stopper costs less than \$2 and will save that much in a week.

Install Toilet Dams

The average toilet uses 6 gallons of water every time you flush. Installing toilet dams can save at least 2 gallons per flush with no change in how well the toilet works.



Install Low Flow Showerheads

You can save up to 10,000 gallons of water or about \$40 a year if you install low flow shower heads in all your showers

Other Money Saving Tips

1. Do not use the toilet as a wastebasket or an ashtray. Flush it only when necessary.
2. Take short showers instead of baths. A bath uses more water. If you must take baths, fill the tub only half way.
3. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving. This will save gallons of water every day.
4. For cold drinking water, keep a bottle of water in the refrigerator rather than running the tap water until it cools down.
5. If you wash dishes by hand, use two basins, one for washing and one for rinsing, rather than a running faucet

Save Water Outside Your House

1. Do not run the hose while washing your car. Use a bucket or soapy water and use the hose just to rinse the car off.
2. Use mulch (leaves, hay, etc.) in your garden to retain moisture and keep down weeds.
3. Whether you are washing the car or watering the garden, use a nozzle on your hose.