

STEPS TO SAVE WATER & MONEY

Explore the steps to identify and reduce water waste. Learn about common causes and which programs and resources can help.

1. Check for Leaks



- **Leaks are a Major Cause of Water Waste.**
To Confirm a Leak:
 - Turn off all water sources and observe your water meter.
 - If the dial continues moving, there's likely a leak.
- **Isolate the Leak:**
 - Close the main shutoff to your irrigation system.
 - If the meter still runs, the leak is likely inside your home.
 - If the meter stops when irrigation shutoff is closed but starts when it's open, the leak is likely in the irrigation system.
- **Toilets:**
 - Leaking toilets are common culprits.
 - Inspect your toilet for a damaged flapper or water level float.
 - Use free toilet test tablets from the [Conservation Center](#) to check for leaks.
- **Sprinkler Systems:**
 - Leaks can occur due to broken heads, nozzles, or pipes.
 - Check if sprinkler valves are not closing completely.
 - Signs of water inside the valve box indicate a leak.
- **Other Leaks:**
 - Leaking faucets, water heaters, or swamp coolers.
 - For more detailed assistance, refer to the [fact sheet](#) on leak detection.



2. Review Sprinkler Schedule



- **Number of Water Days:**
 - If you water more than three days per week, reduce watering days.
 - After installing new grass, adjust the schedule once your establishment permit expires.
- **Run Time:**
 - If you water three days or less per week, ensure you're watering the right amount.
 - Refer to our recommended [lawn watering schedule](#) for guidance.
- **Multiple Schedules:**
 - Check all watering programs to avoid overlapping schedules for the same area.
- **Controller Reset:**
 - If your controller loses power, it may revert to factory settings, leading to unintended watering.

3. Upgrading Inefficient Fixtures



- **Upgrade Fixtures:**
 - Replace older toilets with ultra-high efficiency models using our \$100 [toilet rebate](#) (limit 3 per address).
 - Install efficient shower heads, faucet aerators, and hot water shower shutoffs (available at the [Conservation and Environmental Center](#)).

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- **Irrigation Equipment**

- Utilize [rebates](#) to update your controller, rain sensor, sprinkler heads, and nozzles.

4. Simple Actions



- Avoid leaving faucets, spigots, or hoses running continuously.
- Use a shutoff nozzle when washing your vehicle.
- Be mindful when filling pools, hot tubs, or water features.
- Use power washers only when necessary.
- Limit kids' playtime running through sprinklers.
- Choose an efficient water softener.
- Plan for temporary increases in water during special events.

5. Large Landscape Upgrade



- If you have a lawn larger than 15,000 square feet, consider water-wise landscaping.
- Replace part of your lawn with [water-wise plants](#) and grass types.
- Explore [demonstration gardens](#), [classes](#), and [webinars](#) for guidance.

6. Monitor Consumption



- Check your water usage patterns in [My Account](#).
- Look for changes over time.
- Increased use on non-watering days may indicate a leak inside your home.
- Higher use after turning on a sprinkler system could signal an ongoing leak outdoors.
- After changes or repairs, monitor consumption to track improvements.

