

SUPERIOR WATER CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN



Water conservation is the “beneficial reduction in water use, waste, and loss” and is proven to be the most economical and environmentally protective means of meeting the challenges of water supply management.

Conservation tools are long-term strategies that should not be implemented only as a response to emergency conditions or drought. Successful water conservation requires careful planning for it to be a reliable way to manage water resources.

Water is limited resource in our state. As much as 60% of all household water use in the summer months is used outdoors for landscape purposes. For the past several decades, populations have boomed in our urban centers, and the costs of new water supplies have steadily increased. Water conservation is more critical than ever for the long-term protection of our state’s natural resources and economy. Our community is very fortunate that it has positioned itself well during periods of draught. However every gallon of water we save provides additional insurance for the future.

The Town of Superior is asking everyone to restrict their water usage and increase their water conservation efforts. Our community has always implemented water conservation strategies. One of our most successful conservation applications is our Re-use System. We reclaim and treat our wastewater to produce safe recycled or re-use water that is used for irrigating. It is safe and an excellent conservation tool that saves our community millions of gallons of water each year. We do supplement the re-use supply with some raw water so the users of the system have also been asked to reduce their usage.

To learn how you can help to do your part to achieve an overall reduction of 20% as a community, we have provided a list of suggestions of how to save water below. In addition, *the Town of Superior has partnered with the Center for Resource Conservation to provide residents of Superior with a **free irrigation audit** by calling 303-441-3278 ext 17.*

Remember- Saving water saves you money on your water bill.

Sincerely,

Utility Billing



WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

YARD:

- ◆ No watering between 10am-6pm
- ◆ Adjust hose attachments and sprinkler heads to large drops instead of fine spray
- ◆ Use a sprinkler timer, cut sprinkler time by 20%
- ◆ Mulch cut your lawn
- ◆ Make sure you are not watering driveways and walkways
- ◆ Hand water where possible. This will cut use by 1/3 over sprinklers.
- ◆ Don't water when it's windy or raining.
- ◆ Sweep driveways & sidewalks instead of hosing down.
- ◆ Fix leaky hoses and connections.
- ◆ Outfit all hoses with automatic shutoff (pistol style) nozzles
- ◆ Concentrate first on shrubs and trees, then perennials and annuals.

GARDEN

- ◆ Add compost or peat moss to soil to improve its water capacity.
- ◆ Mulch beds to a depth of 2-3 inches to reduce evaporation.
- ◆ Add polymer crystals to soil in flower pots.
- ◆ Choose drought-tolerant plants – Perennials, herbs, conifers. Trees such as honey locust, eastern red cedar, Japanese pagoda, Kentucky coffee.
- ◆ Reduce the size of your vegetable garden, Plant tomatoes and herbs in pots and use recycled water on them.
- ◆ Consider a drip irrigation for flowers and shrubs

HOUSEHOLD:

- ◆ Insulate your water heater and all hot water pipes
- ◆ Use recycled water on plants. Sources: water left from boiled eggs, teakettles, washed vegetables.
- ◆ Fix leaky faucets; install a faucet aerator.
- ◆ Make your next dishwasher or clothes washer a water-saver.

BATHROOM:

- ◆ Fix toilet leaks and drippy faucets. To determine if you have a leak, add food coloring to the tank and wait 15 minutes. If it appears in the bowl, there is a leak. These types of leaks account for 14% of water consumed in the home.
- ◆ Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- ◆ Turn off faucet when brushing teeth. This saves 2-3 gallons/minute
- ◆ Shorten shower time, this will 5-7 gallons/minute
- ◆ When taking a bath, close the drain before turning on the water and fill it half as full as you normally would; you could save 10-15 gallons.
- ◆ Install new showerheads and lo-flow faucets.

KITCHEN:

- ◆ Run dishwasher and washing machine only when full.
- ◆ Don't pre-rinse dishes before loading the dishwasher
- ◆ Wash dishes by hand
- ◆ Wash vegetables and fruits in a bowl using a vegetable brush; don't let the water run.
- ◆ Steam vegetables instead of boiling. This will also retain more vitamins in the food.
- ◆ Chill drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the faucet till cold.
- ◆ Defrost food in the refrigerator instead of a pan of water; this will breed fewer bacteria as well.

Another good source of information: Water Wiser @ www.waterwiser.org. A site of the American Water Works Association in cooperation with the EPA and the Bureau of Reclamation.