

HOME WATER USE SURVEY

This survey will tell you about how much water your family uses daily. Your family may need to help with some of the answers. If you have water saving appliances or toilets, your water use may be less than some amounts on the chart. Answer all the questions that apply to you, click on the button labeled Compute Totals, and then scroll down for your usage.

Make Every Drop Count!

			Per Day	Per Month
How many showers a day does you family take?	_____ (No.)			
How long is each one?	(Min.)	Multiply (No.) x (Min) x 5		X30days
How many baths does your family take?		Multiply x 36		X30days
How many times does your family usually flush the toilet?		Multiply x 6		X30days
How many family members do you have?	_____ (No.)			
How many times a day does each one brush their teeth?	_____ (Min.)	Multiply (No.) x (Min) x 3		X30days
How many times a day does your family wash dishes?	_____ (No.)			
How long does the water run?	_____ (Min.)	Multiply (No.) x (Min) x 3		X30days
How many times does your family use the dishwasher?		Multiply x 30		X30days
How many loads of laundry does your family do each week?		Multiply x 48		X30days
How many times do you water the lawn?	_____ (No.)			
For how long?	_____ (Min.)	Multiply (No.) x (Min) x 10		X30days
How many times a week do you wash car/boat/driveway?	_____ (No.)			
For how long?	_____ (Min.)	Multiply (No.) x (Min) x 10		X30days
How much water, other than the uses above, would you say you use a day?	_____ (Gallons)			
			Total Per Day	Total Per Month

There is an automatic calculator at <http://www.waterconservationschool.com>

Water conservation saves water, energy and money

The average Floridian uses 175 gallons of water each day -- about 65 more gallons per day than the average American.

What do you do with your 65 additional gallons? Do you drink more, do more laundry, wash your car more, water your lawn more? The answer is likely "all of the above" plus a myriad of other reasons related to our warm climate. Here's the irony: Survey shows that 80 percent of our customers believe water conservation is critical, yet they continue to use nearly three gallons of water per hour more than the average American.

For several years, Florida's rainfall has been below normal. Lack of rain has caused record low levels in our underground drinking water supply. The average adult needs only 2.5 quarts of water a day to maintain health, but each person in Florida uses about 120 to 150 gallons

of water a day. And, with thousands of people moving to our state each month, future demand on fresh water supplies will continue to increase. That's why it's important to use water wisely (whether there's a drought or not) in our homes, schools and businesses. By conserving water today, we can do our part to keep water pure and plentiful for future generations. By following a few simple steps, a typical family can save 50,000 to 100,000 gallons of water each year.

You can score big by following this water-saving game plan:

- ▶ **Stuff It.** In the wastebasket, that is. Toss tissues, insects or anything else you want to get rid of in the trash, not in the toilet. (each time you flush, that's 5-7 gallons down the drain.)
- ▶ **Limit your dribbling.** Check for leaks or drips in faucets and toilets. Don't leave the water running while you brush your teeth or wash the dishes. When washing the car, watering your lawn, or even bathing your dog, use a hose with a nozzle that automatically shuts off.
- ▶ **Make a clean sweep.** Use a broom, not a hose, to clean your driveway or sidewalk.
- ▶ **Be a team player.** When helping with chores around the house, remember to water lawns and gardens during cool times of the day -- early morning or evening. When doing dishes or washing clothes, use only full loads in automatic machines. Use one dishpan for washing and one for rinsing when doing dishes by hand.
- ▶ **Blow the whistle...on water wasters.** Remind your friends and family to conserve.
- ▶ **Take water breaks, but don't let the tap water run to get cool.** Instead, keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator
- ▶ **Don't linger in the locker room.** Take shorter showers or fill you bathtub only partly full.
- ▶ **Play by the rules.** Abide by any watering rules or restrictions that may be in effect in your community.
- ▶ **Upgrade your house.** Retrofit toilets with low-flow water saving devices, which can save you 150 or more gallons a month. Replacing shower heads with low-flow alternatives and combined with shorter showers can save you up to 2,600 gallons a month.
- ▶ **Fill it Up.** Maximize appliance efficiency by making sure that dishwashers and washing machines are fully loaded. This can save you 15-55 gallons per load.

Lawn watering accounts for a whopping 50% of all home water use!

Keeping your lawn irrigation in proper working order is a vital part of water conservation. When irrigation systems malfunction or develop leaks, it both wastes water and costs money. Below are some examples of common irrigation solutions...

- ▶ **Watch your watering time.** After a half-hour of lawn watering with the average sprinkler system, lawns become saturated and further watering only becomes wasteful runoff. It's also best to water before 9 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Otherwise, as much as 30 percent of the water is lost to evaporation by the midday sun.
- ▶ **Evaluate your irrigation system.** Outdoor irrigation can account for more than 50 percent of a home's total water consumption. Drip irrigation that uses a network of pipes and hoses to provided a slow trickle of water to landscape root systems works best. Moisture sensing devices that shut off automatic sprinkler systems prevents over-watering.
- ▶ **Rake, sweep or blow driveways and sidewalks instead of hosing away debris.** You will save up to 50-60 gallons of water.
- ▶ **Build dykes around trees and shrubs to hold water.**
- ▶ **Xeriscape your yard by using drought and salt tolerant plants which are native to Florida.**

Potential Sources of Groundwater Pollution

1. Truck terminals and service stations
2. Petroleum pipelines, stores and tank farms
3. Auto repair, body shop and auto supplies
4. Rust proofers
5. Pesticide, herbicide wholesalers
6. Dry cleaners
7. Painters, finishers, furniture strippers
8. Printers, photo processors
9. Auto washes, laundromats
10. Beauty salons
11. Medical, dental and vet offices
12. Food processors, meat packers and slaughter houses
13. Concrete, asphalt, tar and coal companies
14. On-site sewage disposal
15. Railroad yards, industrial sites
16. Storm water impoundment
17. Cemeteries
18. Airport maintenance, fueling
19. Machine shops
20. Metal platers
21. Heat treaters, smelters, annealers, descalers
22. Wood preservers
23. Chemical reclamation
24. Industrial waste disposal
25. Municipal and private waste retailers
26. Wastewater treatment plants, lagoons
27. Landfills, dumps and transfer stations
28. Junk, salvage yards, recycle centers
29. Subdivisions, individual residences
30. Heating oil storage (consumptive use)
31. Golf courses, parks, nurseries
32. Sand gravel and other mining
33. Abandoned wells, existing wells and sinkholes
34. Feed lots, manure piles
35. Agricultural chemical storage, handling, spreading, spraying

- 36. Construction sites
- 37. Transportation corridors
- 38. Fertilized fields, agricultural areas

Common Groundwater Pollutants

1. Antifreeze (for gasoline coolant systems)
2. Automatic transmission fluid
3. Engine and radiator flushes
4. Hydraulic fluid (including brake fluid)
5. Motor oils/waste fuels/grease lubricants
6. Gasoline, jet fuel
7. Diesel fuel, kerosene, #2 heating oil
8. Degreasers for driveways and garages
9. Battery acid (electrolyte)
10. Rust proofers
11. Car wash detergents, waxes and polishes
12. Asphalt and roofing tar
13. Paints, lacquer thinners and rust cleaners
14. Floor and furniture strippers
15. Metal polishes
16. Laundry soil and stain removers (including bleach)
17. Spot removers, cleaning solvents
18. Disinfectants
19. Household cleaners (oven, drain, toilet)
20. Cesspool cleaners
21. Road salt (Halite)
22. Refrigerants
23. Pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides)
24. Photochemicals/printing ink
25. Wood preservative (creosote)
26. Swimming pool chlorine or bromine compounds
27. Lye or caustic soda
28. Jewelry cleaners
29. Leather dyes
30. Fertilizers (if stored outdoors)
31. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's)
32. Other chlorinated hydrocarbons, including carbon tetrachloride
33. Any other product with "poison" labels
34. Other products not listed that you would not want to drink

Drought Resistant Plants Suitable for Dry, Sandy Florida Soils

Trees

Pindo Palm
 Crape Myrtle
 European Fan Palm
 Jerusalem Thorn
 Chinese Fan Palm
 Japanese Yew
 Cabbage Palm
 Live Oak
 Mexican Washington Palm

Shrubs:

Century Plants
 Aloe
 Japanese Boxwood
 Pampas Grass
 Pineapple Guava
 Yaupon
 Primrose Jasmine
 Shore Juniper
 Wax Privet
 Heavenly Bamboo (Nandina)
 Pittosporum
 Firethorn
 Boxthorn
 Spanish Bayonet
 Spanish Dagger
 Bear Grass

Groundcovers, Grass, Flowers

Coral honeysuckle
 Weeping lantana
 Spreading cultivars (Gold Rush)
 Creeping lilyturf
 Small-leaf confederate jasmine
 Wedelia
 Junipers
 Carolina yellow jasmine
 Algerian ivy
 English ivy
 Purple queen
 Asparagus fern
 Gopher apple
 Zamia or Coontie
 Bear grass or Adam's needle
 Powderpuffs
 Baby's bath brush
 Saw palmetto
 Needle palm
 Bigleaf periwinkle
 Coral vine
 Four-O'clocks
 Boston fern
 Greenbrier
 Partridgeberry
 Coral Vines
 Trumper Creeper
 Carolina Yellow Jasmine
 Argentine Bahia Grass
 Banksia Rose
 Fortune's Rose
 St. Augustine Grass
 Asian Jasmine