

# Home Water Conservation

This playbook outlines a series of practices and devices to be implemented at home for conserving water. It aims to reduce water usage and contribute to environmental sustainability by adopting simple changes in daily routines and household fittings.

## Step 1: **Audit Usage**

Begin by assessing current water usage to identify areas where conservation can be improved. This includes checking for leaks, monitoring water bills, and understanding how water is used in various areas of the home, such as the bathroom, kitchen, and garden.

## Step 2: **Fix Leaks**

Repair any leaks found in toilets, faucets, hoses, or piping. A small drip can waste a significant amount of water over time, so addressing these issues promptly is important for conservation efforts.

## Step 3: **Install Aerators**

Install low-flow aerators on all household faucets. These devices reduce water flow while maintaining pressure, helping to save water without sacrificing functionality.

## Step 4: **Low-Flow Showers**

Replace existing showerheads with low-flow models that use less water per minute. This simple switch can lead to substantial water savings, especially over the long term.

## Step 5: **Efficient Toilets**

Consider upgrading to high-efficiency toilets that use significantly less water per flush. If a full replacement isn't feasible, explore options like a toilet tank bank or an adjustable toilet flapper to reduce water usage.

## Step 6: **Water-Smart Appliances**

Choose ENERGY STAR-rated dishwashers and washing machines, which are designed to be more water- and energy-efficient than standard models. When these appliances need replacement, opt for the more efficient models.

## Step 7: **Mindful Watering**

For gardens and lawns, water early in the morning or late evening to reduce evaporation. Use drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or install a rain barrel to collect and reuse rainwater.

## Step 8: **Sensible Usage**

Practice mindful water usage by turning off taps while brushing teeth or shaving, taking shorter showers, and only running dishwashers and washing machines with full loads.

# **General Notes**

## **Behavior Change**

Adopting new habits is key to water conservation. It may take time to adjust to these changes, but sustained effort will lead to meaningful water savings.

## **Community Programs**

Investigate local water conservation programs or rebates offered for the installation of water-efficient appliances and fixtures.

## **Regular Maintenance**

Regular maintenance of appliances and fixtures is important. Periodically check for leaks or inefficiencies even after initial upgrades are made.