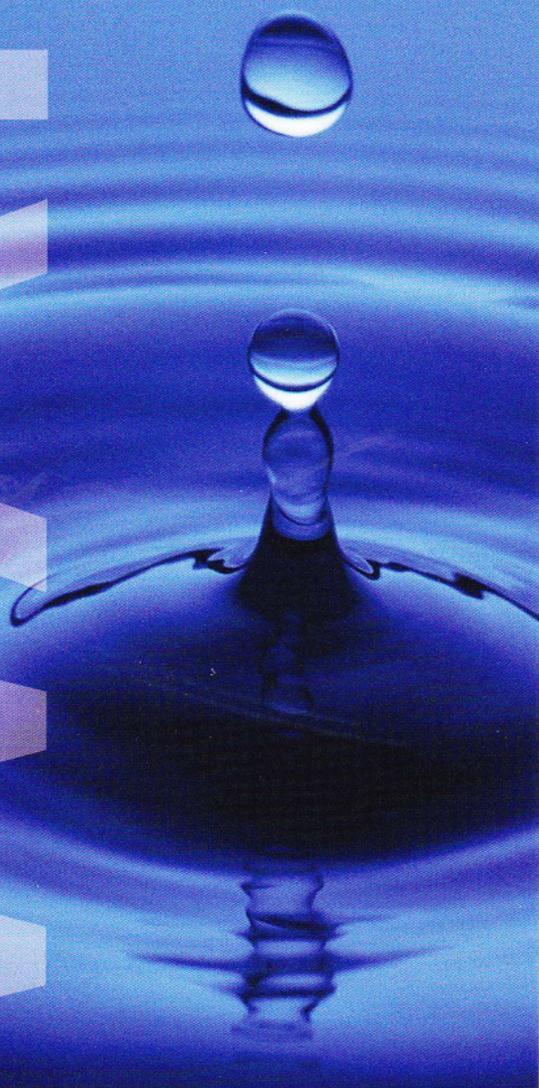


WATER

Ideas for
wise water
management.
It's up to us.



LAKEWOOD

What's good for the planet is good for Lakewood.

When rain is scarce, water is on everybody's mind. Crisis has a way of focusing our attention. But, the truth is, we can't control how much rain and snow we get. But here's the good news; we can control how much water we use—how much we use wisely vs. how much we waste thoughtlessly. A lot of water goes down the drain because we have always thought of water as being plentiful and cheap.

Lakewood has no immediate water crisis. And most of our conservation goals are voluntary for now. But let's face it; it would be a colossal mistake to ignore the facts. California's water supplies are not predictable. Years of drought can't be easily made up. Worse yet, structural drought is built into the water supply system. If we don't continue to plan, we'll be facing a water shortage sooner or later.

Lakewood is seeking innovative ways to expand future water supplies while updating our wells and water treatment facilities. We're also working on a plan to store more water underground in wet years, to be used later when rainfall is below normal. Storing water for the future is one way we can put off the worst effects of a drought.

But the easiest solution is conservation! Especially when you follow some best practices for making your home or business "water tight". We can alter our behavior. Change our habits. Save instead of spend!

Take a moment to review these water saving tips.

We can do this together!

This booklet is filled with plenty of simple, practical water-wise tips. But we've also included links to some of the best minds at the agencies and organizations that Lakewood partners with so you can learn even more.

We can be water wise or thoughtlessly wasteful.

It's up to us.

WE CAN DO THIS.

You'll be amazed how much water you can save by following these simple tips!

Step one: Economize!

Try running only full washing machine and dishwasher loads, and be sure to set the water level for the size load you are washing. This saves 300 to 899 gallons per month! A low-flow showerhead will save 50 gallons of water during a 10-minute shower and only costs \$10! Shorten your showers, and save up to 700 gallons per month. A broom instead of a hose to clean your driveways and sidewalks, and adjusting your sprinklers so water only lands on your lawn or garden saves up to 600 gallons a month.

Step two: Repair leaks!

A leaky faucet dripping at a rate of just one drop per second will waste 2,700 gallons of water per year. Fixing leaky faucets and plumbing joints saves 20 gallons per day for every leak stopped. Retrofitting all household faucets with low flow aerators can save 500 to 800 gallons per month.

Step three: Make your lawn a water miser!

Typically, 50 percent of the water consumed by households is used outdoors. The average homeowner uses more than 4 times the actual amount of water needed to keep a lawn healthy and green—wasted water that runs off into storm drains. Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water. Set your sprinklers for more days in between watering. This saves 750-1,500 gallons per month.

Step Four: Think globally, act locally.

Our local communities are the natural stewards of the local environment. The benefits of water conservation extend beyond the Individual to the entire neighborhood, and to the world at large. Wise water management is an easy way to make a positive contribution to our environment.

Ideas for wise water management

INDOOR CONSERVATION	Estimated Savings
Run the dishwasher only when full.	2-4.5 gallons per load
Don't leave water running while rinsing dishes.	2.5 gallons per minute
Turn off water when brushing teeth.	2 gallons per minute
Shorten showers.	2.5 gallons per minute
Don't use toilet as wastebasket.	1.6 gallons per flush
Wash only full loads of clothes.	15-50 gallons per load
Fix leaky toilets.	35-50 gallons per toilet
Fix leaky faucets.	15-20 gallons per day per leak
Use a high-efficiency clothes washer.	20-30 gallons per load
Replace older, high-volume flushing toilets.	2.2-3.8 gallons per flush

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION	Estimated Savings
Water your yard only before 9 am to reduce evaporation and interference from wind.	20-25 gallons a day
Don't overwater!	
Reduce each irrigation cycle by 1-3 minutes or eliminate one irrigation cycle per week.	
Use the landscape calculator and watering index at www.BeWaterWise.com	
Water only after the top inch of soil is dry.	
Reset irrigation controllers and replace batteries in the spring.	15-25 gallons per minute; up to 250 gallons per cycle
Adjust sprinklers to prevent overspray.	15-25 gallons per day
Repair leaks and broken sprinkler heads.	20 gallons per day per week
Add 2" to 3" of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation.	20-30 gallons per day per 1,000 sq. ft.
Install water-efficient drip irrigation system for trees, shrubs, and flowers to get water to the plant's roots more efficiently.	20-25 gallons per day
Upgrade to a "smart irrigation controller" that automatically adjusts watering times for hotter weather, and shuts down the system when it rains.	40 gallons per day
Replace a portion of the lawn with beautiful native and California friendly plants.	33-60 gallons per day per 1,000 sq.ft.
Group plant species with similar water needs together and adjust water use based on those needs.	

OTHER OUTDOOR IDEAS	Estimated Savings
Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.	8-18 gallons per minute
Adjust your pressure reducer (if you have one) to keep pressure between 40-60 psi.	
Don't leave the hose running while washing your car. Get a self-closing nozzle for your hose.	8-18 gallons per minute
Repair any leaks around pool and spa pumps.	20 gallons per day per leak
Install covers on pool and spas to reduce evaporation.	30 gallons per day
Install pressure reducer if your pressure is greater than 80 psi.	

New conservation rules

Lakewood's water rate structure encourages homeowners and businesses to be water tight. The conservation rate structure tiers costs so that big users pay more and those that conserve pay less.

New requirements for repairing water leaks, and restrictions on cleaning hardscape areas have also been adopted to help preserve our valuable water resources.

A revised conservation in landscaping ordinance will be used to shrink the "water budget" for large landscaped areas.

For more information

You can call the Lakewood Water Resources Department at **562-866-9771, extension 2700** for answers to questions about water conservation, or you can e-mail

Service1@lakewoodcity.org.

There is a wealth of information about more ways to conserve water. Educate yourself by visiting these websites:

>www.lakewoodcity.org/water_conservation

>www.BeWaterWise.com/savewater

>www.FutureFriendly.com/savewater

>www.StandforLess.com

>www.wateruseitwisely.com

>www.eartheasy.com/live

>www.waterconserve.org

>www.watermiser.com

>www.H2Ouse.org

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