

Conserve Water Georgia!

Top 5 Tips - Indoors

1. **Wash only full loads of dishes and laundry.** You'll not only save water, but energy as well.



2. **Take a shower instead of a bath.** Filling the bathtub uses about 50 gallons of water and you can save 30 gallons by taking a shower.

3. **Shorten your shower to 5 minutes.** Cut back on your shower time and you will rack up big savings in water and energy. Also, install a water-saving showerhead that uses 2.5 gallons/minute.



4. **Think before you flush.** Every flush you eliminate can save between 2 and 7 gallons of water.

5. **Fix leaking faucets and toilets.** An average of 8% of all home water use is wasted through leaks. Test for a leaking toilet by lifting the lid off the toilet tank and putting a few drops of food coloring into the bowl. Wait a few minutes, and then look in the bowl. If the food coloring has made its way there, you have a leak.



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Top 5 Tips - Outdoors

1. **Help your plants use less water.** Cut back annuals and perennials during dry spells. They'll bounce back when it rains again.



2. **Collect water to keep your valuable plants alive.** You'll be surprised at how much drips from your air conditioner, and at how much you catch in

a rain barrel under your downspouts.

3. **Prioritize plants.** When water is scarce, give it to your valuable or irreplaceable trees and shrubs first. Don't worry about annuals and turf grasses that are easy to replace.



4. **Don't stress your plants.** Don't fertilize when you can't water it in. And set your mower blade higher than normal to help keep your lawn alive during a drought.

5. **Mulch.** Cover the entire area from the trunk to the ends of the branches with pine straw, bark chips or shredded hardwood mulch. Use newspapers underneath to help the soil retain moisture.

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