

## Tips for Conserving Water

### Kitchen:

- Run dishwashers and washing machines with full loads only
- Scrape your plates instead of rinsing before loading them into the dishwasher
- When washing dishes by hand, fill the sink with soap and water instead of running the tap. Fill another basin with clean water for rinsing
- Keep a container of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap until the water is cool
- Don't let the faucet run while cleaning vegetables. Instead, rinse them in a sink or bowl filled with clean water
- Thaw frozen foods ahead of time in sitting water or in the air, rather than under running water
- Add food wastes to your compost pile instead of using the garbage disposal

### Bathroom

- Repair all leaks and drips. These drips add up to wasted money going down the drain.
- Install low flow shower heads and faucet aerators (2.5 gallons per minute or lower)
- Limit shower time to five minutes
- Keep tub bathing to a minimum, and instead, take quick showers
- Do not leave the water running while brushing your teeth or shaving
- Install a High Efficiency Toilet (HET) or put a toilet displacement device like a water-filled half-gallon container in your tank. Do not use a brick, as it can disintegrate and cause plumbing issues
- Do not use the toilet as a waste basket or ashtray

### Outdoors

- Use a broom to clear debris from walkways and driveways instead of hosing them down with water
- Water your lawn only when it needs it and please follow the [irrigation schedule](#). One inch per week is sufficient to keep your lawn and plants healthy
- Make sure your sprinklers are watering only the landscape, not the driveway, sidewalk or street.
- Plant drought tolerant and/or native trees and plants. Use mulch to help retain moisture
- When washing a car, use soap and water from a bucket. Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle for the final rinse only
- Report leaks in fire hydrants, plumbing, or other public facilities so they can be repaired