MULTIFAMILY
UTILITY COMPANY

Water Conservation Tips

So, you've stopped running the faucet when you brush your teeth. Great!

Did you know about all these other ways you can avoid wasting hundreds of gallons of water a day?

As climate change brings more intense droughts, all of us should take a good look at our water habits.

Consider yourself frugal? You might still be wasting more than you think.

1. If you have a dishwasher, put down the sponge. It may feel more virtuous to wash by hand, but it's more wasteful. You use up to 27 gallons of water per load by hand versus as little as 3 gallons with an ENERGY STAR-rated dishwasher. And just scrape off the food scraps instead of rinsing each dish before you load it.

2. Let the professionals wash your car. Once again, your DIY instinct is admirable...but profligate. Letting the local car wash do the dirty work could save up to 100 gallons, and they recycle the water.

3. Use an egg timer when you shower and set it for 5 minutes. The EPA estimates that the average shower uses 2.5 gallons of water per minute. That's 20 gallons of water for the average shower! If you can cut shower time down by half, you'll save 10 gallons a shower. It adds up!

4. Test your toilet. Undetected internal leaks from tank to bowl could waste up to 100 gallons a day. Drop a dye tablet or food coloring in the tank yearly to see if the color of the water in the bowl changes color. If it does, your toilet needs a replacement rubber flapper or fill mechanism. Report your leaking toilet to property management for repair.

5. Conduct regular leak hunts. A 1/16-inch opening in your faucet could waste 100 gallons a day. Tour your apartment monthly, inside and out, in search of dripping faucets, shower heads, hoses, and sprinklers. Most faucet drips can be fixed simply by replacing a worn-out washer. Report dripping faucets to property management for repair.

6. Wash only full loads of laundry whenever possible. A washing machine uses up to 30 gallons of water, per load. If you wait until you have a full load the water used will be cut in half!Saving water and energy is everyone's responsibility. Any action you can take to reduce waste makes a difference for your community, your utility expenses, and the planet. Make it a challenge to do something every day to contribute to conservation – you'll be glad you did!