



# Water Conservation Tips

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is committed to supporting and encouraging both water and energy conservation throughout the state.

Did you know that almost 20 percent of electricity and more than 30 percent of natural gas is used to treat, transport, and use water? It's a win-win situation - when you save water, you save energy too!

Below are some tips for you and your family to save water and energy. By working together, we can save the environment.

- **Install water-saving devices.** You can save water by installing low-flow showerheads, high-efficiency toilets, and kitchen/bathroom faucet aerators. Check with your utility – you may be able to get these devices at a discount, or for free.
- **Take shorter showers.** Reduce your shower by 1-2 minutes and save 5 gallons.
- **Turn water off while brushing your teeth.** Save 3 gallons.
- **Fix leaky faucets.** Save up to 20 gallons per day.
- **Wash a full load of laundry.** Save 15 to 50 gallons per load.
- **Use a broom instead of a hose.** You can save as much as 100 gallons of water cleaning your driveway by sweeping instead of using the hose. Plus, it's good exercise!
- **Water before 8 a.m.** You can save about 25 gallons each time you water by watering before 8 a.m. Watering early reduces evaporation and puts that water to work helping your plants grow.
- **Make the switch from lawn to xeriscape (low-water use landscaping).** Switch your garden from turf to drought-tolerant plants and reduce your household water use by more than 30 percent. Outdoor water use accounts for between 50 to 70 percent of all household water use!

Want the CPUC at your community/senior event/health/resource fair? Need a guest speaker on CPUC consumer programs and services? Contact the CPUC's Business & Community Outreach team!

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