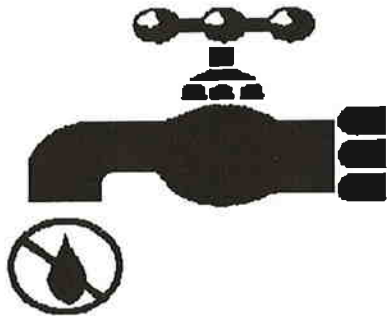


# WATERfacts 1

## Water Conservation



Water conservation is not water rationing, but seeks to reduce consumption through the promotion of more efficient water use and the elimination of waste. Water conservation is the wise use of our resource to ensure an adequate supply.

### Usage Facts

- The average Canadian uses 286 litres (63 gallons) of water/day, compared to 200 litres (44 gallons) in Sweden and Great Britain, and 150 litres (33 gallons) of water/day in France and Germany.
- Metered municipal water systems use about 20% less water than unmetered services.
- A running tap flows at a rate of 4.5 gallons per minute.
- A tap that drips once per second can waste about 2,000 gallons of water per year.

### Conservation Facts

- Residential plumbing retrofits such as low-flow showerheads, toilet dams, and faucet aerators can reduce residential water use by 20 to 25% without affecting water use habits.
  - low-flush toilets reduce water use from 5 to 1.5 gallons per flush
  - toilet dams can save about 2 gallons per flush
  - water saving faucet aerators reduce flows from 4.5 to 2.5 gallons per minute

### Communities Benefit

- Defers expansion of water facilities
- Reduces raw water and sewage treatment costs
- Saves on energy to distribute water

### Individuals Save Money

- Less energy is required to heat water
- Lower municipal sewer and water bills

### Conservation Tips

- Fix all leaky faucets and toilets
- Replace traditional fixtures with water conserving fixtures wherever possible
- Don't run water continuously while washing, shaving or brushing teeth
- Operate dishwashers and washing machines only when you have a full load
- Water lawns and garden only on calm days, early in the morning or in the evening to reduce evaporation
- Use a shut-off nozzle on hoses: a half-inch garden hose will put out 330 gallons of water per hour
- Don't cut the grass too short: longer grass holds moisture better and shades its own roots
- Wash vehicles with a pail of water and save the hose for the final rinse
- Use a broom, not the hose, to clean driveways, patios, decks and sidewalks
- Repair any leaks in farm water delivery systems

*PFRA provides technical assistance to farmers for planning the most suitable water supply for their farms.*