

WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES FOR BREWER HOMEOWNERS

Water use has soared in recent years. In many parts of the United States, the limited availability of drinking water has made water conservation practices mandatory. With water consumption at an all-time high, the costs of water and sewer services continue to climb. The good news, however, is that widespread reduction in water consumption could limit the need for new or expanded water and sewage treatment plants.

The City of Brewer encourages good water use habits by making citizens aware of daily activities that consume a large volume of water. Some water conservation practices that we recommended include:

- Run the dishwasher and laundry machines only with full loads.
- Use the shortest wash and rinse cycles and the lowest water level setting possible.
- Avoid the permanent press cycle, which uses an additional 10 to 20 gallons of water.
- When hand-washing dishes, do not let the water run continuously.
- Avoid using garbage disposal systems.
- When buying a new washing machine, choose a suds-saver model.
- In the bathrooms, place two half-gallon plastic bottles filled with water in the toilet tank to reduce the amount of flush water used.
- Take shorter showers and use a water-conserving showerhead (less than 2.5 gallons per minute) rather than taking baths, which use 30 to 50 gallons of water.
- When shaving, brushing teeth, or washing your face, do not let the water run continuously.
- When washing your car, use a bucket, and wash and rinse sections individually, and use a high-pressure, low-volume hose with a nozzle.
- Water the lawn and gardens only when absolutely necessary.
- Water lawns only during the coolest time of day to avoid evaporation of the water.
- When replacing an outdated bathroom flush, replace it with a water saving flush.