

WATER GREEN ACTIONS

FREE & LOW COST

- try to take a shower in less than 5 minutes
- turn off running faucets when not needed (i.e. brushing teeth or shaving)
- stop those leaky faucets or toilets
- only flush the toilet as necessary
- only run dishwasher when you have a full load
- only run washing machine when you have a full load

INSTALL EFFICIENT APPLIANCES

- low-flow faucets
- low-flow shower head
- low-flow toilets
- EnergyStar rated dishwasher
- EnergyStar rated washing machine

REDUCE FOOD & GOODS

Significant amounts of water are used to produce food and certain goods

- [reduce food waste](#)
(Recovering 23 lbs. of food conserves 920 gallons of water - source: Imperfect Foods)
- upcycle or buy used clothing
(1 cotton shirt requires 792 gallons of water to produce)

REUSE WATER

- install gray water system
- use 'dirty' water to flush the toilet (i.e. pail)

OUTSIDE WATER

- reduce or eliminate lawn watering (unless from rain barrel)
- install rain barrel
- plant native plants/grass
- plant drought resistant plants/grass
- mulch gardens
- leave grass clippings on the lawn
- if you need to water your lawn, use a smart sprinkler
- if you need to wash your car, use a self-serve car wash instead of a hose
- cover your swimming pool to decrease evaporation

Resources:

Calculate your own water usage: <https://waterfootprint.org/en/>

Stats & Information:

Per day, an average American uses 60 gallons of water inside the home; 140 gallons outdoors; and, 2000 gallons indirectly (source: <https://waterfootprint.org/en/>)

On average, 59% of a resident's annual water usage is for outdoor water use (source: American Water Works Association Research Foundation)

WATER SUPPLY DATA:

- Beverly Water Supply:
 - “While the Salem Beverly Water Supply System has adequate capacity to endure a drought, the Board has many suggestions to help you save our resources by conserving water.” (source: Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board <https://www.beverlyma.gov/Archive/ViewFile/Item/47>)
- New England Water Supply:
 - “New England States are fortunate to have abundant freshwater resources.
 - Annual precipitation averages place the New England States in the top half of the wettest States in the United States.
 - However, as populations have grown (11.4 percent between 1990 and 2015), freshwater resources have come under significant stress in many areas, particularly during periods of drought.
 - Stresses have been partially offset by declining rates of water withdrawals between 1990 and 2015. The steepest declines occurred in the most populous States — Massachusetts and Connecticut.
 - Source: https://www.usgs.gov/centers/new-england-water/science/new-england-water-use?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects
- Global Water Supply:
 - 2.2 billion people lack access to safely managed drinking water services. (WHO/UNICEF 2019)
 - Almost 2 billion people depend on health care facilities without basic water services (WHO/UNICEF 2020)

- Over half of the global population or 4.2 billion people lack safely managed sanitation services. (WHO/UNICEF 2019)
- 297,000 children under five die every year from diarrhoeal diseases due to poor sanitation, poor hygiene, or unsafe drinking water. (WHO/UNICEF 2019)
- 2 billion people live in countries experiencing high water stress. (UN 2019)
- 90% of natural disasters are weather-related, including floods and droughts. (UNISDR)
- 80% of wastewater flows back into the ecosystem without being treated or reused. (UNESCO, 2017)
- Around two-thirds of the world's transboundary rivers do not have a cooperative management framework. (SIWI)
- Agriculture accounts for 70 per cent of global water withdrawal. (FAO)

Source: <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/water>

WATER USED FOR FOOD:

Recovering 23 lbs. of food conserves 920 gallons of water and prevents 78 lbs. of CO₂.
(Source: [Imperfect Foods](#))

WATER USED FOR CLOTHING:

- To produce just one cotton shirt requires approximately three thousand liters of water. (3,000 liters = 792 gallons)
- Textile production (including cotton farming) uses around 93 billion cubic meters of water annually, representing 4% of global freshwater withdrawal (source: <https://www.theconsciouschallenge.org/ecologicalfootprintbibleoverview/water-clothing>)