# Water Conservation Tips!

### DEALING WITH DIRTY DISHES

Hand Washed Dishes: Start by filling one side with soapy water and using the other side for rinsing. Save money, time, and water by using less soap, which promotes less rinsing.

Dishwashers: Load them and leave them. Prevent wasted water by making sure your dishwasher is full before running it.



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#### EXCESSIVE FLUSHING

**Toilet:** Flushing the toilets consumes up to 30% of the total indoor water use. Reduce your impact by throwing items such as insects or tissues into the garbage instead. A more effective way to reduce water use is to install a <u>low-flow toilet</u> that uses less than 1.28 gallons per flush, while an outdated one can use up to 8 gallons!

# OUTDOOR WATER USES



Hoses: A standard garden hose can consume 50 gallons of water from running for just 5 minutes! Limit the amount of time the hose is running by

turning it off or adding an <u>automatic shutoff</u> <u>nozzle</u> when doing activities like washing your car.

Watering the Lawn: Most people water their lawns too often, which prevent their lawns from growing more resilient. As a means to knowing when to water, just step on the grass. If a footprint it left, it is time to water.

### GETTING RID OF SCRAP FOOD

**Garbage Disposals:** Disposals require large amounts of water to run efficiently. As an alternative, try <u>composting</u> leftover food or simply putting it in the garbage.

## CLEANING CLOTHES

#### **Washing Machine:**

This is the second largest consumer of water in a typical house! Try to wash laundry only if you have a full load and adjusting the water levels appropriately. This will save both water and energy usage. A high-efficiency washer, with a Water Factor lower than 9.5, can also save up to 50% water and energy used per load.

# WASHING UP

**Showers:** Taking a shorter shower, lasting about 3-4 minutes can save gallons of water each time! As a more permanent means to conserve water, install a low-flow showerhead, restricting flow to 2.5 gallons per minute or less.

Baths: Adults should fill the bathtub to only 1/3 full, while smaller children require much less water. Then you can adjust levels after

getting in, minimizing the overflow.

**Washing Hands**: Be sure to turn off the water while soaping up your hands. A running faucet consumes about 3 gallons per minute!

