

Daily Water Use at Home



Complete this survey to estimate how much water is used in your home daily.

Average Use: Write the number of times you and your family members do each activity in one day. Then multiply the number for **Water Used** by the **Number of Times** the activity is done. This will give you the number for the **Gallons Used** column.

Calculated Use: Record the number of total minutes used for each activity. Then multiply the number for **Water Used** by the number of **Total Minutes** to find the number for the **Gallons Used** column. For an activity you didn't do, place a 0 under **Gallons Used**. Add all the numbers under **Gallons Used** to find the **Total Gallons Used**.

AVERAGE USE

Activity	Water Used	Number of Times	Gallons Used
Dishwasher	5 gallons per load		
Toilet Flushing	2 gallons per flush		
Bathing	20 gallons (full tub)		
Laundry	23 gallons per cycle		

CALCULATED USE

Activity	Water Used	Total Minutes	Gallons Used
Garbage Disposal	2 gallons per minute		
Brushing Teeth	2 gallons per minute		
Washing Hands	2 gallons per minute		
Washing Dishes by Hand	2 gallons per minute		
Shower	2 gallons per minute		
Yard Watering with Hose	7 gallons per minute		

Total Gallons Used

Discuss ways to conserve water at home with your family. Write two of the ways on the lines provided. Decide how you will help each other practice your new habits. Share ideas with your classmates.



Water-Saving Tips!



Garbage Disposal

A garbage disposal requires a lot of water to operate properly. Use a disposal only when necessary.

Dishwasher

Use your automatic dishwasher only for full loads.



Toilet Flushing

Avoid using your toilet as a wastebasket. Tissues, insects and other things belong in a trash can, not the toilet.



Bathing

Take only shallow baths.

Washing Dishes by Hand

When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water and fill the rinsing sink to one-third or one-half full — avoid letting the water run continuously in the rinsing sink.



Laundry

Run only full loads in the washing machine. Running the machine when it's full will save you time, energy and water.



Shower

Limit the time water runs while you're taking a shower. Install a low-flow showerhead.

Washing Hands

Don't let the water run while you are washing your hands.



Yard Watering

Water only on your watering day and only when 30 percent of the lawn shows signs of wilt: leaf blades folded in half, blue-gray color and footprints remain on the lawn for several minutes after walking on it.

Brushing Teeth

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.



For additional information about our water resources, please contact the Communications Section of the Communications & Board Services Bureau at 1-800-423-1476, or visit our web site at WaterMatters.org.

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

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