

HOUSEHOLD TIPS FOR SAVING WATER EVERY DAY

You pay for every drop of water you use, so why waste it? There are many places around your home that are potential water loss points: a dripping faucet can waste 3-10 gallons of water a day; a toilet could waste up to 200 gallons a day! In addition to inspecting your faucets, toilets and water-using appliances for leaks and selecting more water-efficient appliances, following are some other ways to save water.

In the House

- Water plants from your freshwater fish tank.
- Insulate hot water pipes.
- Run full loads of laundry or dishes, or use the correct load size setting.
- Keep a water pitcher in the refrigerator.
- Wash vegetables in a pan or sink with a stopper.

In the Yard

- Wash your car on the lawn.
- Water your lawn with one inch watering only when it needs it.
- Keep water on the lawn and off the pavement.
- Water deeply in the morning or late evening in low wind.
- Mulch around trees and plants.
- Sweep, don't hose, sidewalks and driveways.

In the Bathroom

This where two-thirds of a household's water is used, so –

- Do not use the toilet instead of a trash can.
- Use a few drops of food coloring in the tank to check toilets for leaks.
- Make a lo-flow toilet by placing a weighted 1-liter plastic bottle in the tank.
- Do not run the faucet when you brush your teeth, wash your hands or shave.

WATERSHED 101

What is a watershed? A watershed is an area of land that drains to the same water-body. Watersheds can be as small as the area around a puddle, or as large as the watershed for the entire Maumee River, from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Maumee Bay. Watersheds include the open land, buildings and parking lots.

Do I live in a watershed? YES!! Everyone lives in a watershed. No matter how far away you live from a water-body, you have an effect on the water quality in your area.

What can I do to help with water quality? Everything that goes into a roadside ditch or down a roadside drain will eventually end up in a lake, river, or stream, potentially polluting our waterway. Here are a few simple things you can do to help improve our water quality:

- Keep all litter, grass clippings and leaf debris out of the roads and ditches.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Sweep fertilizer back onto your lawn.
- Dispose of household hazardous wastes appropriately.