



# Are You “In” for Water Conservation?

Metro Atlanta’s water supply is limited and periods of drought are not uncommon. It is imperative that we conserve water inside our homes and significantly reduce outdoor watering to increase our resilience in times of drought.

Take the pledge today to discover water-saving tips and determine the impact of your existing conservation habits or pledge to do more in the future!

[mydropcounts.org/pledge](http://mydropcounts.org/pledge)

What you can do to save water:	Potential daily savings
Fix leaking toilets	<b>Hundreds of gallons</b>
Only run dishwashers in full loads	<b>10 gallons<sup>†</sup></b>
Fix dripping faucets	<b>8 gallons</b>
Turn off the water while brushing your teeth	<b>8 gallons</b>
Shorten your shower time by 2 minutes	<b>5 gallons</b>
Don't leave the water running while shaving	<b>4 gallons*</b>
Compost or scrape instead of rinsing your dishes by hand before putting them in the dishwasher	<b>6 gallons</b>
Scrape food into the trash instead of using a garbage disposal	<b>2 gallons</b>
Replace washing machine with high efficiency EnergyStar model	<b>10 gallons<sup>†</sup></b>
Replace inefficient showerheads (those with a flow rate of greater than 2 gallons per minute) with high efficiency WaterSense labeled showerheads	<b>4 gallons</b>
Replace older, inefficient toilets (those with greater than 1.6 gallons per flush) with high efficiency WaterSense labeled toilets	<b>11 gallons</b>

\* Assumes a person shaves once per day

†Assumes a person washes only one full load per day

## Outdoor water saving measures:

- » One inch of rainfall or water every week in the growing season may be ideal for newer plants and lawns, but many plants, especially established plants, can survive on much less, even as little as 1 inch every 2-3 weeks.
- » Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of grass for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.
- » Install covers on pools and spas to reduce evaporation, and check for leaks around your pumps.
- » We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but remember to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
- » Water the root zone of the plant instead of the foliage. This saves water and reduces diseases.
- » Raise your mower blade and cut grass higher to encourage deep rooting, increase turf survival during drought and reduce water demand.
- » Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed.
- » Water your plants deeply but less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
- » Group plants with the same watering needs together to avoid overwatering some while underwatering others.
- » Water lawns before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m., saving on evaporative water loss in the hottest part of the day.
- » Water only when necessary. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering.
- » Adjust your watering schedule each month to match seasonal weather conditions and landscape requirements.

Join the Society of Intentionally Dry Lawns at  
[mydropcounts.org/jointhesociety](https://mydropcounts.org/jointhesociety)



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My Drop Counts is presented by the  
Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District and the  
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