



SAVE WATER, SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY

Whether you're a business owner, homeowner or renter, water and energy use are probably factored into your monthly budget. With a few small adjustments in your day-to-day activities and some simple DIY upgrades, you can start saving on your monthly water and energy bills.

1. CHECK FOR LEAKS

A slow drip from a faucet may not seem like a big deal, but those few drops can add up quickly and have major impact on your overall water bill. The same goes for that toilet you hear running occasionally throughout the day. [According to the EPA, 10 percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.](#) If you see signs of a leak, or if you see a sudden increase in water usage on your bill, check your pipes, faucets, gaskets and toilets.

- To check for toilet leaks, place a drop of food coloring in the tank. If, after about 10 minutes, you see color in the bowl, you have a leak. Make sure to flush the toilet after you check so you don't stain your tank!
- Another way to check for leaks is to look at your water meter. First, make sure no water is being used (faucets, showers, appliances, etc.). Locate your water meter (it's usually outside near the front or side curb of your home or in a basement) and look at the leak indicator. If the leak indicator dial is moving, you most likely have a leak.

Some leaks are easily fixed with a trip to the hardware store and a few simple tools you have at home. If you can't find the source or have a bigger job you need help with, call a licensed plumber to conduct an inspection and make repairs. Addressing leaks quickly prevents water waste and can save you [10 percent on your water bills.](#)

2. WASH WISELY

Handwashing dishes with the water running can use as much as [20 gallons of water](#) in just 10 minutes, not to mention the energy used by your water heater. Instead, fill your sink with warm soapy water and plug it with a stopper so your dishes can soak, using only about four gallons of water. As an added bonus, soaking also helps loosen food and grease, so you won't have to scrub as much!

If you have a dishwasher, wait until it's full to start the cycle. If your dishwasher has multiple wash features, you may be able to select an eco-friendly cycle for washing and/or drying for additional savings.

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3. GO LOW-FLOW

Standard showerheads use about [2.2 gallons](#) of water per minute. Simply replacing your standard showerhead with a low-flow model cuts your water use down to just 1.5 gallons per minute. Most hardware stores offer a wide selection of low-flow showerhead models with a variety of spray and pressure features, so you can find the one that works for you.

Additionally, switching to a low-flow toilet significantly cuts the amount of water used per flush without compromising quality.

Texas Gas Service is currently giving away a limited number of free water-saving kits to qualified customers. The kit includes a low-flow showerhead and sink aerators you can install in just a few simple steps to start saving water and energy. [Click here to learn more and request your free kit!](#)

4. CHECK THE LABEL

ENERGY STAR® certified appliances (including [water heaters](#), [dishwashers](#) and [washing machines](#)) meet certain standards for quality and efficiency. If you're in the market for a new home appliance, look for the ENERGY STAR logo to narrow down your search. You can also look for WaterSense-labeled faucets, aerators, toilets and irrigation controllers to save even more.

If your appliance search includes a new water heater, Texas Gas Service offers [rebates](#) when you purchase a new tankless super high-efficiency natural gas model. Plus, you'll save long-term on energy costs.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

[How Going Green Can Save You Money](#) (U.S. News & World Report)

[WaterSense](#) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

[30 Eco-Friendly Products That Will \(Eventually\) Save You Money](#) (The Motley Fool)