

GREEN Living: Water Conservation in Your Home the Easy Way – Part 3



Before we head outdoors to enjoy spring, let's take a final look at saving water in your home. In [Part 1](#) we looked at conserving water in the bathroom, which accounts for approximately 45% of indoor water usage. In [Part 2](#) we addressed ways to conserve water in the kitchen and laundry room. Here we will look at the remainder of the home.

Choose Appliances that are Water Efficient. Save money and water by choosing products that carry the EPA WaterSense label. These products (and services) are certified as water efficient. The [WaterSense label](#) will help you identify high-efficiency products, homes, and programs.

Insulate Water Pipes. We waste water by needlessly running it to get warm or hot water. Insulating pipes reduces the amount of time you wait for the water temperature you desire. Capture the water you run to reach the desired temperature in a bucket or gallon jug and water your plants.

Reuse Your Water. Before putting used water down the drain consider whether it can be used for another purpose. Watering indoor house plants, outdoor containers, and gardens is a great use of used cooking and washing water. Water used to rinse dishes can then be used as wash water for the next set of dishes. Water can also be reused to wash the car, clean floors, or water the lawn. And don't forget about that glass of water left on the nightstand or counter – don't waste the water down the drain, use it for another purpose. Be creative.

Be Mindful About Food. Food, as well as other items, have a carbon and water footprint. Many of the same steps we take to reduce our food carbon footprint apply to water too. For example, beef is both carbon and water intensive, so cut down your intake. According to [Water Footprint Calculator](#), one pound of beef requires nearly 1,800 gallons of water to produce. One pound of pork requires 575 gallons of water to produce, while one pound of chicken weighs in at 470 gallons. Reducing meat in your diet is not only good for heart and health, but it reduces your water footprint too.

Buy less stuff. Stuff, and our throw-away culture, not only adds to our carbon footprint, but also to our water footprint. Be mindful of purchases and look to the long-term for use. Reuse and recycle where you can.

Reminder: Rebates and More Tips on Saving Water

Our water company, Suez Water, offers rebates to [homeowners](#) and [businesses](#) for water saving appliances and devices. Don't leave money on the table when making water efficient purchases.

More tips for saving water at home and within businesses can be found at the [EPA WaterSense site](#).

Suez Water also offers many [water saving tips](#).

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