



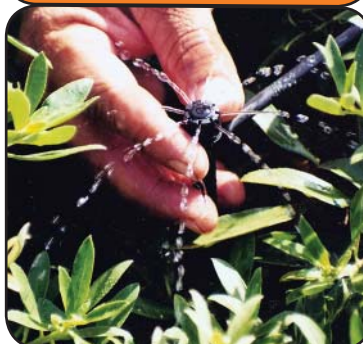
SAVE



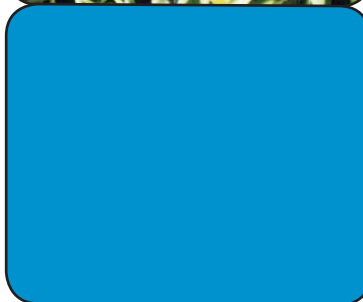
WATER



NOW



HERE'S  
HOW



# Local water supply

San Diego County has a semiarid climate and a very small supply of local water. Since more than 80 percent of the county's water is imported, using water efficiently must be a permanent way of life. Making the most of every drop of water helps our region's vibrant economy and preserves our quality of life.

Here is a list of tips that can help you save water. Read them carefully and make these water-saving practices a part of your daily life. For more tips visit [sdcwa.org](http://sdcwa.org).



**saves up to 25 gal/bath** Fill the bathtub half full when bathing.

## Tips



**saves up to 1.6 gal/flush**

Install high-efficiency toilets. These 1.28 gallons per flush toilets cut the amount of water that goes down the drain with each flush by as much as 50 percent.

Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket.

Check your toilet for leaks. Put a few drops of food color in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl, you have a leak that is wasting many gallons of water a day. Replace the tank's rubber flapper if it is causing the leak.

**saves up to 50 gal/day/toilet**



**saves up to 2.5 gal/minute**

Take shorter showers. Limit showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down, and rinse off. Better still, turn off the flow of water while soaping and shampooing. Turn the water back on to quickly rinse.

Install water-saving showerheads. All new showerheads use 2.5 gallons a minute or less.



**saves up to 2 gal/minute**

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and shaving.



**saves 2.5 gal/minute**

If you wash dishes by hand, turn off the water in-between rinses. Better yet, fill a sink with rinse water. If you have only one sink, first gather all your washed dishes in a dish rack, then rinse them quickly. Also, using the least amount of detergent necessary minimizes the rinse water needed.



**saves up to 4.5 gal/load**

Fully load your automatic dishwasher — each time you run it you use about 25 gallons of water.

## Indoors | Outdoors



**saves up to 20 gal/day/leak** Fix leaky faucets.



**saves up to 25 gal/day**

Rinse vegetables in a filled sink or pan instead of under running water.

Defrost frozen food without running water over the package. Place food in the refrigerator overnight or defrost in a microwave.

Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator. This stops the wasteful practice of running the tap water to cool it before drinking.



**saves up to 50 gal/load** Wash only full loads of clothes.



**saves up to 30 gal/day/1,000 sq. ft.**

Add 2" to 3" mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation.



**saves up to 25 gal/day**

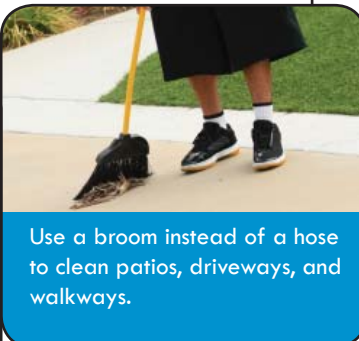
Adjust sprinklers to prevent overspray and run-off.

Check your irrigation system, faucets, and hoses regularly, and repair any leaks. Make sure your irrigation system is operating as efficiently as possible.



**saves up to 25 gal/day**

Plant WaterSmart trees and plants during the fall and winter.



**saves up to 25 gal/day**

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean patios, driveways, and walkways.



**saves up to 25 gal/day**

Water only when needed. Water only before dawn and after dusk to reduce evaporation and interference from wind.

Check soil and plants to decide if irrigation is needed. Probe soil gently with a screwdriver or small spade. Wait until the top 2 or 3 inches are dry before watering.

Check with your local water agency for restrictions on watering days, times, and duration.



# Your Water Services

For detailed information about local water use requirements or water rates, contact the agency that sends your water bill.

## San Diego County Water Authority Member Agencies:

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- 1 Carlsbad MWD  
[www.carlsbadca.gov/water](http://www.carlsbadca.gov/water)  
760-438-2722
  - 2 City of Del Mar  
[www.delmar.ca.us](http://www.delmar.ca.us)  
858-755-3294
  - 3 City of Escondido  
[www.ci.escondido.ca.us](http://www.ci.escondido.ca.us)  
760-839-4658
  - 4 Fallbrook PUD  
[www.fpud.com](http://www.fpud.com)  
760-728-1125
  - 5 Helix Water District  
[www.hwd.com](http://www.hwd.com)  
619-466-0585
  - 6 Lakeside Water District  
[www.lakesidewaterdistrict.com](http://www.lakesidewaterdistrict.com)  
619-443-3805
  - 7 City of National City\*  
[www.sweetwater.org](http://www.sweetwater.org)  
619-420-1413
  - 8 City of Oceanside  
[www.ci.oceanside.ca.us](http://www.ci.oceanside.ca.us)  
760-435-5800
  - 9 Olivenhain MWD  
[www.olivenhain.com](http://www.olivenhain.com)  
760-753-6466
  - 10 Otay Water District  
[www.otaywater.gov](http://www.otaywater.gov)  
619-670-2222
  - 11 Padre Dam MWD  
[www.padredam.org](http://www.padredam.org)  
619 448-3111
  - 12 Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base  
[www.cpp.usmc.mil](http://www.cpp.usmc.mil)  
760-725-0602
  - 13 City of Poway  
[www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org)  
858-668-1215
  - 14 Rainbow MWD  
[www.rainbowmwd.com](http://www.rainbowmwd.com)  
760-728-1178
  - 15 Ramona MWD  
[www.rmwd.org](http://www.rmwd.org)  
760-789-1330
  - 16 Rincon del Diablo MWD  
[www.rinconwater.org](http://www.rinconwater.org)  
760-745-5522
  - 17 City of San Diego  
[www.sandiego.gov/water](http://www.sandiego.gov/water)  
619-515-3500
  - 18 San Dieguito Water District  
[www.ci.encinitas.ca.us](http://www.ci.encinitas.ca.us)  
760-633-2810
  - 19 Santa Fe Irrigation District  
[www.sfidwater.org](http://www.sfidwater.org)  
858-756-2424
  - 20 South Bay Irrigation District\*  
[www.sweetwater.org](http://www.sweetwater.org)  
619-420-1413
  - 21 Vallecitos Water District  
[www.vwd.org](http://www.vwd.org)  
760-744-0460
  - 22 Valley Center MWD  
[www.vcmwd.org](http://www.vcmwd.org)  
760-749-1600
  - 23 Vista Irrigation District  
[www.vid-h2o.org](http://www.vid-h2o.org)  
760-597-3100
  - 24 Yuima MWD  
[www.yuimamwd.com](http://www.yuimamwd.com)  
760-742-3704

\*Sweetwater Authority manages City of National City and South Bay Irrigation District.

## Additional Resources

Water-saving tips inside and outside  
your home and business  
[www.20gallonchallenge.com](http://www.20gallonchallenge.com)

California Friendly Gardening for San Diego County  
Landscape design elements and firewise tips  
[www.20gallonchallenge.com/gardensoft.html](http://www.20gallonchallenge.com/gardensoft.html)

Gardening with California Native Plants  
California Native Plant Society - San Diego  
[www.cnpsd.org/horticulture/index.html](http://www.cnpsd.org/horticulture/index.html)

The Landscape Watering Calculator  
<http://apps.sandiego.gov/landcalc/>

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Conservation Information  
[www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com)

Guide to Water Saver Home  
[www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org)

WaterWiser Drip Calculator  
[www.awwa.org/awwa/waterwiser/dripcalc.cfm](http://www.awwa.org/awwa/waterwiser/dripcalc.cfm)

## WaterSmart Gardens

Water Conservation at Cuyamaca College  
[www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org)      619-660-0614

Quail Botanical Gardens  
[www.qbggardens.org](http://www.qbggardens.org)      760-436-3036



**San Diego County  
Water Authority**

The Water Authority is a public agency serving the San Diego region as a wholesale supplier of water. The Water Authority works through its 24 member agencies to provide a safe, reliable water supply to support the region's \$171 billion economy and the quality of life of more than 3 million residents.