CHECK FAUCETS AND PIPES FOR LEAKS

A dripping faucet is more than annoying...

**it’s expensive.**

Even small leaks can waste significant amounts of water, as illustrated below. Hot water leaks are not only a waste of water, but also of the energy needed to heat the water.

Leaks inside a toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day. Toilet leaks can be detected by adding a few drops of food coloring to the water in the toilet tank. If the colored water appears in the bowl, the tank is leaking. Repairing a leaking faucet or toilet stops water and money from flowing down the drain.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diameter of Leak (inches)</th>
<th>Loss per Day*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>11,983 Gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>3,000 Gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>750 Gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/32</td>
<td>188 Gallons</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Based on the average water system pressure

NORTH PENN WATER AUTHORITY

WATER CONSERVATION

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- “Use Water Wisely”, Commonwealth of PA., Department of Environmental Protection (www.dep.state.pa.us)

www.northpennwater.org
WATER FACTS

Water conservation is something we all should practice. Here are some useful facts and simple suggestions that will help you understand more about water.

There’s as much water in the world today as there was thousands of years ago. Actually, it’s the same water. The water from your faucet could contain molecules that dinosaurs drank.

Nearly 97% of the world’s water is salty otherwise undrinkable. Another 2% is locked in ice caps and glaciers. That leaves just 1% fresh water to be used for agricultural, commercial, manufacturing, community, and personal household needs.

Generally speaking, less than 1% of the treated water produced by water utilities is actually consumed. The remaining water goes on lawns, in washing machines, and down toilets and drains.

CONSERVATION TIPS

BATHROOM

Short showers can save 5 to 7 gallons a minute. When bathing, only fill the tub halfway and save 10 to 15 gallons.

Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush.

There is no need to keep water pouring down the drain. Just wet your toothbrush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.

Rinse your razor in the sink.

Fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your blade just as well as running water. Faucets use 2 to 3 gallons a minute.

Don’t use the toilet as a wastebasket, and don’t flush it unnecessarily. Ultra-low-flow toilets, ranging in price from $100 to over $300, use only about 1.5 gallons of water per flush. Installing them could cut your family’s total indoor water use by as much as 20%.

Water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors, available at a local hardware or plumbing supply store, are inexpensive and easy to install.

KITCHEN & LAUNDRY

Run the dishwasher only when full. Save even more by using the short cycle.

Don’t let water run while washing dishes. Kitchen faucets use 2 to 3 gallons a minute. Filling a basin only takes 10 gallons to wash and rinse the dishes.

Don’t run water to make it cold.

Have it chilled in the refrigerator, ready to drink.

Don’t let the faucet flow while cleaning vegetables. Rinse them in the sink with the drain closed or in a pan of water.

Install low flow aerators on all faucets. Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers.

Save water with a front loading washing machine.

When using a top loading clothes washing machine, use the proper water level or load size selection.

When your washing machine needs replacement, be aware that a high efficiency front loading washer uses about 30% less water and 40% to 50% less energy than a top loading clothes washer.

OUTSIDE

Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.

Many beautiful trees and plants thrive with far less watering than other species.

Don’t overwater your lawn or plants. Water before 9 a.m. or after 7 p.m. Water should soak down to the roots where it will do the most good. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems. Put a layer of mulch around the trees and plants. Mulch will slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth. For best results, use mulch sparingly as you approach the plant crown or tree trunk.

Don’t water your sidewalk or driveway. Use a broom instead.

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