

Saving Water During Emergencies

We often take for granted that we will be able to turn on the faucet and have a good supply of fresh water. Using less water is always a good idea. However, during water shortages saving water becomes a *must*. A *water shortage watch* means we have conditions that could lead to a water shortage. A *water shortage warning* means a water shortage is happening. Several tips for saving water during a shortage or emergency follow.

Saving Water in the Bathroom

- ◆ Take a “Navy shower.” To do this, turn the water on to get wet. Turn the water off. Lather with soap and shampoo. Turn the water back on to rinse.
- ◆ Use a pan of water and cloth to clean up instead of taking a bath or shower.
- ◆ Save the water you use when bathing to flush the toilet or water plants. Don’t keep this “gray water” more than 24 hours.
- ◆ Turn off the water to the toilet. Use “gray water” from bathing, rinsing dishes and rinsing laundry to flush the toilet. Pour the water quickly.



Saving Water in the Kitchen

- ◆ Cook meals that don’t use water. Fix one-dish meals in which meats and vegetables make their own liquid.



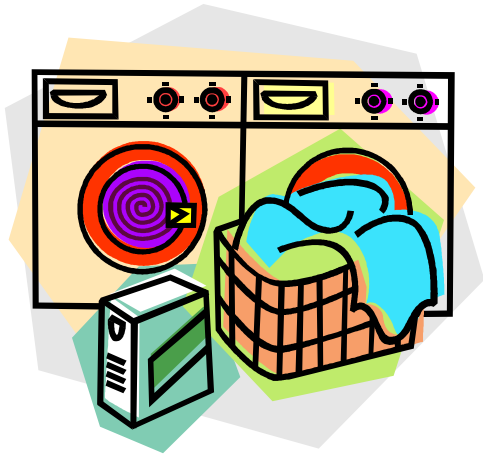
- ◆ Use disposable plates, cups, spoons and forks to limit the need to wash dishes.

- ◆ Save the “gray” water from rinsing dishes to flush the toilet, water plants or mop floors.



Saving Water in the Laundry

- ◆ Wash only full loads or set the load size to match your load. Do not over fill the washer.



- ◆ Recycle used laundry water for flushing toilets, watering plants or mopping floors. Do not use wash water containing bleach or borax for watering plants.

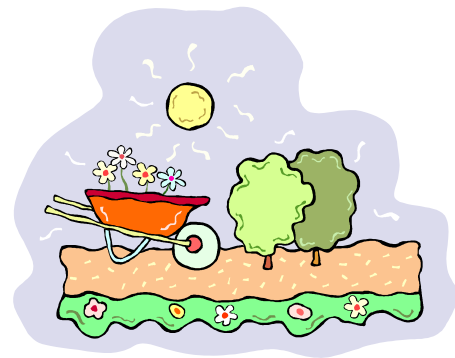


Saving Water in the Lawn and Garden

- ◆ Water outdoor plants with “gray water” from inside. Rinse water from laundry, dishes and bath water are best to reuse. Pour the water on the ground around the plants not right on the plants.



- ◆ Water young trees and shrubs first. They need the water most and are expensive to replace. Don't worry about your lawn.



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