

# Daily Water Use at Home

Complete this survey to estimate how much water is used in your home daily.

**Average Use:** Write the number of times that you and your family members do each activity in one day. Then multiply the number for **Water Used** by the **Number of Times** the activity is done. This will give you the number for the **Gallons Used** column.

**Calculated Use:** Record the number of total minutes used for each activity. Then multiply the number for **Water Used** by the **Number of Total Minutes** to find the number for the **Gallons Used** column. For an activity you didn't do, place a 0 under **Gallons Used**. Add all the numbers under **Gallons Used** to find the **Total Gallons Used**.

AVERAGE USE			
Activity	Water Used	Number of Times	Gallons Used
Garbage Disposal	4 gallons per minute		
Dishwasher	12 gallons per load		
Toilet Flushing	5 gallons per flush		
Bathing	36 gallons (full tub)		
Laundry	43 gallons per load		
CALCULATED USE			
Activity	Water Used	Number of Total Minutes	Gallons Used
Brushing Teeth	4 gallons per minute		
Washing Hands	4 gallons per minute		
Washing Dishes by Hand	4 gallons per minute		
Shower	5 gallons per minute		
Yard Watering with Hose	9 gallons per minute		
<b>Total Gallons Used</b>			

Discuss with your family ways to conserve water at home. Write two of the ways on the lines provided. Decide how you will help each other practice your new habits. Share ideas with your classmates.

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For additional information about our water resources, please contact the Communications Department of the Southwest Florida Water Management District at 1-800-423-1476, ext. 4757, or visit our web site at [WaterMatters.org](http://WaterMatters.org).



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This information will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please contact the Communications Department at (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4757; TDD only at 1-800-231-6103 (FL only).

# Water-Saving Tips

## ▶ **Garbage Disposal**

A garbage disposal requires a lot of water to operate properly. Use a disposal only when necessary.

## ▶ **Dishwasher**

Use your automatic dishwasher only for full loads.

## ▶ **Toilet Flushing**

Avoid using your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. Tissues, insects and other things belong in a trash can, not the toilet.

## ▶ **Bathing**

Take only shallow baths.

## ▶ **Laundry**

Run only full loads in the washing machine. Running the machine when it's full will save you time, energy and water.

## ▶ **Brushing Teeth**

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.

## ▶ **Washing Hands**

Don't let the water run while you are washing your hands.

## ▶ **Washing Dishes by Hand**

When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water and fill the rinsing sink to one-third or one-half full — avoid letting the water run continuously in the rinsing sink.

## ▶ **Shower**

Limit the time water runs while you're taking a shower. Install a low-flow showerhead.

## ▶ **Yard Watering**

Water only when 50 percent of the lawn shows signs of wilt: leaf blades folded in half, blue-gray color and footprints remain on the lawn.

Southwest Florida  
Water Management District



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