



p-TIPS

Keep the wellsprings flowing (Saving water)

Most of us are familiar with the 18th century Scottish proverb: “We’ll never know the worth of water until the well runs dry.” Although 75% of the earth’s surface is covered by oceans, only 0.01% of water resources are available for human use. Changes in lifestyles, population growth, increasing urbanization, and climate change are placing greater demands on water supplies worldwide. It makes sense to conserve as much of this precious commodity as possible and to utilize it in the most productive ways so that our well never runs dry. We all know that water should be turned off while brushing teeth or shaving and gardens should be watered in the cool of the evening to reduce evaporation. American Water & Energy Savers have other conservation tips worth considering.

- 1) Create an awareness of the need for water conservation among your children. Don’t let them play with toys requiring a constant water stream; teach them to catch rainwater for potted plants or the lawn.
- 2) Encourage your employer to promote water conservation at the workplace. Suggest ways your enterprise can use water more productively and incorporate useful ones in training manuals.
- 3) Patronize businesses that practice and promote water conservation. This includes using eco-friendly detergents, shampoos, etc. to make

water reclamation easier and lighten loads on treatment facilities, in addition to purchasing water-saving toilets when it’s time to replace old ones.

- 4) Report all significant water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, etc.) to the authorities. Take a good look around your home and business, too, to ensure that taps aren’t dripping and pipes aren’t leaking.
- 5) Encourage your school system and local government to promote a water conservation ethic, including tourist awareness programs. The more who become involved, the better.
- 6) Support increased use of reclaimed wastewater for irrigation and other uses. Singapore’s NEWater is a successful example.
- 7) Conserve water because it is the right thing to do. Don’t waste the wet stuff just because you’re not paying for it directly, such as while staying in a hotel.
- 9) Try to do one thing each day that will result in water saving. Even if the amount saved is minimal, every drop counts.