

## Why Save Water?

We get most of our water from the aquifer below us and are lucky to have such high quality and accessible water. The aquifer is being depleted, which threatens springs, rivers, lakes, and our future water supplies. If we over pump the aquifer, alternative water sources will be much more expensive and energy intensive.

## How to Conserve Water Indoors

Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints. **Save 20 gallons daily for every leak stopped.**

Install shower heads with a maximum flow rate of 2 gallons per minute. **Save 500 to 800 gallons monthly.**

Shower in 5 minutes or less. **Save up to 1000 gallons monthly.**

Run only full loads in the dishwasher. **Save 300 to 800 gallons monthly.**

Adjust your washing machine setting to the size of the load.

Install toilets with 1.28 gallons per flush and sink aerators with a maximum flow rate of 1.5 gallons per minute.

Don't leave the water running to wash dishes. **Save 200 to 500 gallons monthly.**

If you are building a new home, make it Florida Water Star certified to save money and water. [www.floridawaterstar.com](http://www.floridawaterstar.com)

## Conserve Our Water

When we use too much water, there is not enough left for springs, rivers, and lakes. By using less water today, we can help ensure that future generations have springs to swim in and water to drink.

## Resources

Alachua County Environmental Protection Department  
[www.AlachuaCountyWater.org](http://www.AlachuaCountyWater.org)

Conserve Florida Clearinghouse  
[www.conservefloridawater.org](http://www.conservefloridawater.org)

Southwest Florida Water Management District  
[www.watermatters.org](http://www.watermatters.org)

St. Johns River Water Management District  
[www.SJRWMD.com](http://www.SJRWMD.com)

Suwannee River Water Management District  
[www.mysuwanneeriver.com](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com)

Florida Water Star Program  
[www.floridawaterstar.com](http://www.floridawaterstar.com)

Gainesville Regional Utilities  
[www.gru.com](http://www.gru.com)



Report irrigation violations to Alachua County at 352-264-6800

Build your own rain barrel!  
[www.tappwater.org](http://www.tappwater.org)



# Water Conservation



## Make Every Drop Count!

# How to Conserve Water Outdoors

**Irrigation Restrictions: Watering is allowed before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.**

Location	Summer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun in Mar - 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat in Nov	Winter 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun in Nov - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat in Mar
Odd House #	Wed and/or Sat	Sat
Even House #	Thur and/or Sun	Sun
Other residential/ commercial	Tue and/or Fri	Tue

*These restrictions are the max, so irrigate less to save water.*

- Irrigation is limited to no more than one hour or 3/4 inch per irrigation zone per irrigation day.
- Irrigation restrictions apply to water withdrawn from ground or surface water, from a private well or pump, or from a public or private utility.
- Water the lawn only as needed. Step on the grass, if it springs back, it doesn't need water. **Save 750 to 1,500 gallons monthly.**
- Choose a water-efficient drip irrigation system for trees, shrubs, and flowers.
- Cap off irrigation heads on mature trees and shrubs.
- Hire a Florida Water Star Accredited Professional to retrofit your irrigation system.
- Replace turf with native drought tolerant vegetation and group plants according to their water needs.
- Water less frequently in the winter dormant period. Plants require less water, and with cooler temperatures, there is less evaporation.



Photographs provided by the St. Johns River Water Management District.



- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. This slows down evaporation. **Save 750 to 1,500 gallons monthly.**
- Set lawn mower blades one notch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation. Never cut more than the top 1/3 in order to **save 500 to 1,500 gallons monthly.**
- Don't run the hose while washing the car. Use a bucket of water and a quick hose rinse at the end. **Save 150 gallons each time.**

