

City of Geneva  
**WATERWORKS**  
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*Water conservation is everybody's business*

*Basic water conservation tips*

In 1992 legislation was passed limiting the amount of water household appliances use.

- ~ Update your shower heads, after 1992 all shower heads must have a flow rate of 2.5 gallons per minute or lower.
- ~ Toilets are the top source of indoor water use for a home. The 1992 law mandated a maximum of 1.6 gallons per flush.
- ~ Only run your clothes washer and dishwasher when fully loaded.
- ~ Water your lawn & garden early in the morning to minimize evaporation allowing plants to absorb moisture before the day heats up and using a timer helps you remember to shut off the sprinkler.
- \* A drop per second wastes 192 gallons per month
- \* For every half hour your hose runs an astounding 240 to 300 gallons of water is used.

*How to check for leaks*

- 1] Reading your meter; In Geneva most meters are located inside the home or business. First ensure that all faucets and water using appliances are off, and then take a reading. Be sure to note the position of the dial as well as all numbers shown. Wait at least one hour, or over night, then read again, if there is a difference then you have water moving through the meter.
- 2] Checking for leaky toilets; a toilet may be "leaking" and you'll never know unless you complete this simple test; Take ordinary food coloring (red works best) and apply several drops to the water in the tank, enough to notice the color. Wait approximately 20 - 40 minutes, if there is color in the bowl the toilet is leaking. Also while the lid is off the tank check to be sure the water level is at least 1" below the top of the overflow tube. The cost for a toilet repair kit usually does not exceed \$25.00.
- 3] Log onto the American Water Works Association web site at <http://www.awwa.org//>, go to Professional and Technical resources to read up on water conservation issues and programs. Be sure to click on the "WaterWiser" icon to calculate water loss from a dripping faucet.