



GRAHAM HILL WATER NEWS

A Monthly Insight Into Current Water Events

January 2017

Tips to Conserve Water in the Bathroom in the New Year

While many New Year's resolutions include revitalizing gym memberships or clearing out overflowing email inboxes, a great way to start the year off right is to focus on helping the environment and creating an eco-friendly household. If you're interested in attempting a green project that can provide big water and energy savings, the ideal space to refresh is the bath. The bathroom is one of the biggest water wasters in the home according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Below are five tips to help you save water and make your bathroom an eco-friendly, tranquil haven.

- 1. Save in Style-** As the main water wasters in the home, toilets account for nearly 30 percent of indoor water consumption according to the EPA. However, water wasting can turn into water and monetary savings by replacing older, ineffective toilets with new high-efficiency toilets. To achieve the ultimate in savings, try installing an ultra-high-efficiency toilet, which can save up to 18,000 gallons of water a year and up to \$120 per year on water usage annually.
- 2. Small Leaks, Big Problems-** One of the major causes of wasted water in the bathroom is faucet and toilet leaks, which can sometimes go undetected and waste hundreds of gallons of water. In fact, a small faucet drip can waste up to 20 gallons of water per day. Toilet leaks are also major problems that go undetected, but here's an easy test to see if your toilet is leaking. Drop a "toilet dye" tablet (available on request in the office) in the toilet tank and closely monitor the toilet bowl. If, without flushing, blue water appears in the bowl within half an hour, your toilet has a leak that needs to be repaired. Another way to see if you have a water leak in your home is to read your house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not stay exactly the same, then you have a leak.
- 3. Shower Yourself in Savings-** Taking a long, hot shower can be an ideal way to relax, but the increased water and utility bills that result may create an unneeded stress. By replacing an existing showerhead with a powerful high-efficiency model, you can enjoy your shower while saving water and money. Some high-efficiency showerheads offer maximum performance and can save up to 8,000 gallons of water per year and over \$100 off utility bills annually, while also providing a spa-like feel for your bathroom.
- 4. Adjust Habits, Adjust the Bottom Line-** The habits you develop in the bathroom can impact the amount of water you save—and the amount you waste. Simple habits, like turning off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving, can save water and help lower utility bills.
- 5. Faucet Focus-** Updating your bathroom fixtures can provide water and energy savings without breaking the bank, if you know what products to choose. Installing faucet aerators in the bathroom can help regulate water pressure and save water. Some faucet aerators offer multiple, pressure compensating flow rates that provide significant savings over the standard 2.2 gallons per minute (GPM) faucet aerators. These varying flow rates allow the homeowner to use less water depending on the task at hand and ultimately save over 10,000 gallons of water a year and \$150 off utility and water bills annually.

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Calendar of January Events

2nd (Monday)

Office Closed

10th (Tuesday)

Water Payments Due

16th (Monday)

Office Closed

28th (Saturday)

Meters Read

30th (Monday)

Water Statements Mailed

Metered Water Rates:

- Base Rate
— \$40.75
- 0 to 750 cu/ft.
— \$0.0122 per cu/ft.
- 751 cu/ft. to 1,500 cu/ft.
— \$0.0690 per cu/ft.
- 1,501 cu/ft. to 2,250 cu/ft.
— \$0.0705 per cu/ft.
- 2,251 cu/ft. to 3,000 cu/ft.
— \$0.0802 per cu/ft.
- 3,001 cu/ft. and over
— \$0.1085 per cu/ft.