

## Lake of the Woods: Water Conservation tips

- Showers: Save water by showering for only 3 minutes.
  - Install a low-flow showerhead, then take only 3-minute showers
    - Run water into a bucket when you are getting the water warm before showering or bath (Use this water to flush the toilet with)
    - Get wet
    - Shut off water and lather up
    - Turn on water and rinse, then shut water off ASAP
- Baths: Use a 3-inch baths deep bath, not a full tub
- Don't use the toilet as a trash can.
- Replace your toilet with a water saving ultra-low flush model. This can save up to 14,000 gallons of water per year! That's 1,871 cubic feet of water. A potential savings of over \$1,500 per year.
- Fix all leaky toilets, faucets, pipes and swamp coolers.
- Flush toilets only when necessary:
- Turn off the water when shaving, washing and brushing your teeth.
- Run only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running it at the tap until it cools.
- Use a brush and a bowl full of water, instead of running water over fruits and vegetables.
- If buying a new washing machine, buy a front loading washer; these use 1/3 less water than top loaders.
- Turn off the water when you're not using it.
- Wash two or three kids in the tub at the same time.
- Reuse the shower & tub water for watering indoor plants & flushing the toilet.
- Use the Laundromat to wash your clothes.
- Use a broom or rake rather to remove leaves and debris from driveway, walk, patio, and pool decks.
- Use a car wash which recycles water
- Do not let children play with an open hose or faucet.

# Lake of the Woods Water Conservation Tips

## Remember

**Still in Effect** Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company customers will observe **NO OUTSIDE WATERING PROGRAM**. We apologize for any inconvenience, but please understand that this is necessary in order to provide a reliable water service to your home. Please visit our Website for all updates, <http://lakeofthewoodswater.com/>

1 Cubic Foot = 7.48 gallons, 200 CF = 50 gallons/day/person/month,  
Lake of the Woods Meters are in Cubic Feet.

## Bathroom

On average a person can use up to 50 gallons of water per day which can equal about 200 CF per month. The bathroom is the largest area of water usage. Older toilets, use between 3.5 and 7 gallons of water per flush. A bathroom faucet generally runs at 2 gallons of water per minute. Here are some conservation tips for showering, install a low-flow showerhead, fill a bucket with the water that is wasted while waiting for it to warm up and use that to flush the toilet. Shower for only 3 minutes by getting wet and then shut off the water while you lather your hair and body, then turn it back on to rinse. Use less water for baths, say  $\frac{3}{4}$  full instead of a full tub.

## Toilets

A leaking toilet could waste up to 200 gallons a day. Check toilets for leaks, most leaks are from the plunger ball and flapper valve in the tank. You can test to see if it is leaking by adding food color to the tank, just 10 to 15 drops so you can see the color. Do not flush and wait 10 mins, if color appears in the toilet, you have a leak. You can also replace it with a toilet that is an ultra-low flush model, these can save you up to 60% in water usage. Another low-cost fix is to put a brick or a full water bottle in the tank so that it takes less water to fill up the tank.

## Sink

Your bathroom faucet runs about 2 gallons per min. When brushing your teeth, shut water off during brushing, only using it for rinsing. Do the same for shaving and hand washing. By doing this you can save more than 200 gallons of water per month. The kitchen sink: washing dishes with an open tap can use up to 20 gallons, buy filling up the sink or a bowl you can save up to 10 gallons. You can save while washing your vegetables the same way. If using the dish washer, fill the dish washer until it is full before running it. Another water saving idea is keep a full pitcher of water in the fridge to avoid running water until cold for a drink.

## Washing Machine

Newer washing machines use less water than the older brands. If this is not in your budget make sure the washing machine is full when using or adjust the water level to match the load level. The newer washing machines do this automatically.

## Outside

Use a broom, rake or leaf blower to clean off driveways, patios, walkways or yards. You can also use car washes for washing your car.

If you are concerned that you have a leak and would like our operator to check your meter, please call 661-245-1448 for an appointment Monday through Friday. All leaks from the meter to the house are the responsibility of the home owner not the water company. While checking for leaks make sure you have a shut off valve installed to your house. This makes it easier and less expensive for you if a leak were to happen.

Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company  
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