

Did you know that less than 1% of the world's water supply is suitable to use?

For this reason, it's important to conserve this natural resource.

According to the American Water Works Association, indoor water use accounts for 42% of residential water use.

TOP 3 HOUSEHOLD WATER USES

Gallons per person per day

Toilet	20.1
Clothes Washer	15
Shower.....	13.3

Changing wasteful habits, plus the proper selection and installation of water-efficient fixtures and appliances will enhance indoor water conservation.

Install water saving devices

- Ultra low flow toilets
- Low flow aerators
- Low flow showerheads

Check for leaks

To detect leaks, turn off all water in home and check the outside meter. Read the meter again in 15 minutes. If it hasn't moved, you have no leaks. If it has, search them out.

Repair leaks promptly

A slow drip can add up to 15 or 20 gallons per day, while a 1/6-inch faucet leak wastes 100 gallons in 24 hours.

Remember, you are paying for every drop!

INDOOR WATER SAVER'S GUIDE

Washing Machine



45 - 60 gallons

Wash only full loads

Hand Dishwashing



24 - 45 gallons with tap running
half open for 18 minutes

5 gallons washing and rinsing in sink or dishpan

Automatic Dishwasher



11 - 14 gallons full cycle
8 - 9 gallons short cycle

Run only when full

Dripping Faucet



15 - 21 gallons per day

Install a low flow faucet aerator

Toilet



5 - 7 gallons per flush

Install a **1.6 gallon** or less ultra low flow toilet

Shaving



7.5 gallons for a 5 minute shave with tap running

Fill basin and shave: **1 gallon**

Brushing Teeth



7.5 gallons for 3 minutes of brushing with water running

Wet brush, turn off water, brush teeth, then rinse: **1/2 gallon**

Washing Hands



1.5 gallons for a one minute wash

Wash hands thoroughly, but quickly, to save water

Shower



12 gallons per minute

Install a low flow shower head: **1.3 gallons** a minute

Bath



36 gallons full tub

1/3 full still gets you clean. Make sure drain is closed before turning on water

Home Dehumidifier



Use condensate run off to water flower beds

Drinking Water



Don't run the faucet for a cool glass of drinking water

Fill a container and store it in the refrigerator

Catch the Conservation Spirit!



For further information on more efficient water use both in the home and in the landscape, contact:

Pinellas County Utilities

14 S. Fort Harrison Ave. • Clearwater, FL 33756 • (727) 464-4000
or visit our web site www.pinellascounty.org/utilities

THE TOILET IS THE TOP WATER USER IN THE HOME

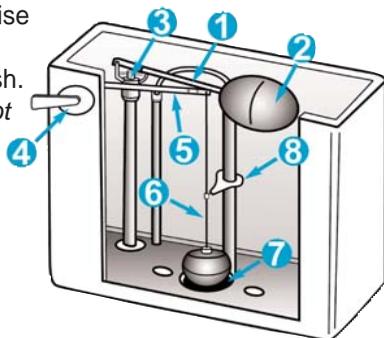
Check for Leaks

A leaky toilet can waste over 200 gallons of water per day! Left unfixed, it can waste over 73,000 gallons of water a year.

To check both the flush valve and the refill valve for leaking, simply put a couple drops of dark food coloring, dark fruit juice or a dye tablet in the tank. Do this when the tank is fully refilled after a flush. Do not use the toilet. Then check the bowl after 20 minutes. If colored water is in the bowl, there is a leak. Depending on the problem, one of the following actions may stop the leak:

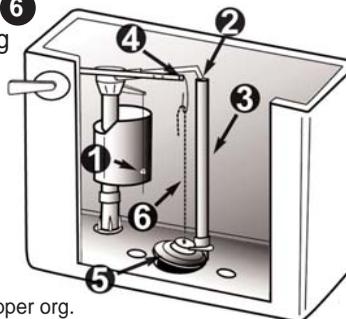
Adjustment options for the ballcock/flush-ball valves

- 1 Bend the end of the float arm to adjust the tank water level to below the top of the overflow pipe.
- 2 Replace the float ball which may have filled with water.
- 3 Replace a faulty or corroded float ball shut-off valve.
- 4 Tighten a loose trip handle by turning the nut counterclockwise (looking from inside the tank).
- 5 Straighten the control arm so it is free to move up and down without touching surrounding parts.
- 6 Replace a sticking rod guide or ball rod.
- 7 Clean a corroded brass valve seat with steel wool or with No. 500 wet-or-dry abrasive paper.
- 8 Raise the guide arm if it does not allow the flush ball to rise enough for a complete flush. *Be careful not to adjust too high, which will prevent the ball from completely closing.*



Adjustment options for the modern plastic valves

- 1 Adjust the sliding pinch clamp on the adjustment rod up to raise the water level or down to lower it. Tank water level should be just below top of overflow tube when toilet has refilled and shut off.
- 2 Reposition bowl refill tube. If it is out of place, water is routed directly into the tank rather than flowing into the bowl. The refill tube should aim directly into the overflow pipe but should not reach below water level.
- 3 Replace defective refill tube with new plastic refill tube.
- 4 Replace flapper by disconnecting the lift hardware from the trip arm and sliding the flapper (5) up and off the overflow pipe. Install the new unit, reversing directions, and connect the lift hardware back to the trip arm. Cut off excess lift chain (6) or leave dangling if it doesn't interfere with toilet operation.



Checking and changing a flapper is a snap.

For everything you need to know, including which replacement flapper you need, go to www.toiletflapper.org.

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