

It's Earth Month! Let's Care for our Planet!

71% of the earth's surface is covered with water, however only 0.5% is fresh water, and drinkable. List at least 5 ways that you personally can save water.

Data from the US Bureau of Reclamation, 2020

Here are some of the many ways to save water.

- Don't let water run in the kitchen or bathroom sink if you aren't specifically using it.
 - When brushing your teeth, wet the brush and shut off the water until you are rinsing.
 - When washing dishes, fill the sink, add some soap, wash them all and then rinse.
- Run your dishwasher only when it is full. Use the "quick" cycle if your dishes aren't particularly dirty, or with baked-on foods. Talk with your family about this.
- When taking a shower, keep an eye on how much time you are washing and try to limit that time.
- Shut your garden hose off if you are not specifically using the water.
- Flush only human waste down your toilets, no tissues or garbage. Use water saving flushes if you have a dual flush toilet, or are using one outside of your home.
- Request water at a restaurant only if you plan to drink it. Tell your friends to do that, also.

Interesting facts about water

- 97% of earth's water is found in the oceans and is too salty for drinking, growing crops, and most industrial use.
- 3% of the earth's water is fresh.
- 2.5% of the earth's fresh water is unavailable: locked up in glaciers, polar ice caps, atmosphere, and soil; highly polluted, or lies too far under the earth's surface to be extracted affordably.
- If the world's water supply were only 100 liters (26 gallons), our usable water supply of fresh water would be only about 0.003 liter (one-half teaspoon).
- This supply is continually collected, purified, and distributed in earth's natural hydrologic (water) cycle.

• This info is from the US Bureau of Reclamation, 2020