

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know.....

Water is a resource essential to our survival, and water conservation will ensure that an adequate supply of clean, safe water will be available in the future. When water is used efficiently, there is a direct cost saving not only on water, but on other services as well. By making a few simple choices, you can reduce your water and energy consumption without cramping your lifestyle.

- ☞ Purchase energy- and water-efficient appliances. Your appliance supplier can recommend efficient brands and models. For example, top-loading washers generally use more water and energy than front loading ones. Look for washers with water-saving cycles and a water level control. Many dishwashers have a “no-heat” dry cycle that can reduce energy costs by up to two-thirds. Reducing energy consumption will reduce your energy bill.
- ☞ Every time you flush, you’re literally flushing money down the toilet. By installing a low flow toilet, you’ll save water, and therefore save money on your water bill. Low flow toilets use only six litres of water per flush, as opposed to traditional models which use up to 23 litres per flush. Since toilet flushing accounts for 30% of household water consumption, you will save a substantial amount of water and money by installing a low-flow toilet.
- ☞ Install low-flow showerheads and ones with a pause feature; take shorter showers or shallower baths; and turn the water off when shaving or brushing your teeth. Running water can use more than 23 litres a minute. Showering and bathing account for 35% of household water consumption. Conserving water will save you money.
- ☞ Plan your landscaping with low-water use in mind. Okotoks has several native trees, shrubs, and flowers that are considered low-water use plants. Use organic mulches to preserve soil moisture, stabilize soil temperature and provide nutrients. Adding organic matter to soil help the soil’s capacity to retain water and nutrients, which means healthier plants. Low water use can equal low maintenance – giving you more time to enjoy your yard and garden. (For more information on suitable plants and gardening information, consult a local garden centre.)
- ☞ Watering your lawn can mean water (and money) down the drain. A lawn needs one inch of water every seven to ten days. If water runs off your lawn and down the drain, your lawn has had enough. By using a sprinkler timer that shuts off automatically, you can prevent overwatering. By knowing when your lawn has had enough, you’ll save on your water bill.