

## Our Water Picture

In California, 75% of the State's rain and snow fall in the north. But 75% of the need for water is in the south.

As Californians, we know that much of Southern California's water comes from the Colorado River and Northern California. Only about one third comes from underground basins in Southern California. These basins are fed by our annual 10" of rain and snow. In the last 14 years, there have been two periods of drought in California. The current drought has lasted for four years. When there are droughts like this one, other regions have first call on some of the supplies we import.

This means there is less water for Southern California. And to date, voters have turned down projects to import more water from the north. As a result, future water supplies are uncertain.

100% of Lee Lake's water comes from the north and it is very important that as a district we do our part and conserve water where possible.



## You Can Make A Difference



### LEE LAKE WATER DISTRICT

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Two Dozen Tips for Water Conservation

# Water is Life... Every Drop Counts

## LANDSCAPING (350 gallons/day)

### 1. Water Your Lawn Only When It Needs It

Test for watering by stepping on the grass. Does it spring back when you raise your foot? If the answer is yes, it doesn't need water.

### 2. Water in the Early Morning

When you water during the cool parts of the day more water soaks in instead of evaporating. Morning is the best time because it prevents the growth of fungus.

### 3. Plant Lawns and Plants Which are Drought Resistant

There are many types of lawn, shrubs, and trees which use very little water. Choose them for your garden.

### 4. Mulch Around Trees and Shrubs

Mulching discourages weeds and slows evaporation when you water your plants.

### 5. Don't Water on Windy Days

Don't pay to water your neighbor's yard or the street. Wait for the wind to die down before watering.

### 6. Don't Water the Sidewalk and Gutter

Make sure your sprinklers water the lawn, not the pavement.

### 7. Check for Leaks

Hoses, couplings, and faucets that leak not only create large puddles but waste your wafering dollars.

## CAR WASHING (150 gallons)

### 8. Turn the Hose Off When You Wash Your Car

Wash the car down and turn off the hose. Soap down your car using a bucket of soapy water. Use the hose to quickly rinse off.

### 9. Use a Broom to Clean Your Driveway

Instead of using a hose, use a broom to clean sidewalks, patios and driveways.

### 10. Look For Hidden Leaks

Shut off all the taps around the house. Check your water meter. If there's movement, there's a leak which needs repair.

### 11. Stop Those Drips

A slow drip can waste up to 20 gallons per day.

## SHOWER

### (40-70 gallons/10 minutes)

### 12. Take Shorter Showers

At a minimum of 4 gallons per minute, showers use a lot of water. Limiting your showers to the time it takes to soap up and rinse off can cut your shower time by more than half.

### 13. Install Water Saving Shower Heads

Low-flow shower heads cut the amount of water used to 2.5 gallons per minute while still giving you a refreshing shower. They're easy to install too.

### 14. Take Baths

Even a full bath uses less water than the average shower. Baths are relaxing too.

## BRUSHING TEETH (3 gallons/day)

### 15. Turn Off the Water When You Brush Your Teeth

Before brushing, wet your brush and fill a glass for rinsing after.

### 16. Turn Off the Water While Shaving

Put some water in the bottom of the sink to rinse your razor, rather than leaving the water running.

## TOILET (3.5-7 gallons/flush)

### 17. Check Your Toilet for Leaks

A leaking toilet can waste 20 gallons a day. To check for leaks, put a little food coloring in the tank. If, after a few minutes, you can see the color in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak that needs repair.

### 18. Stop Using Your Toilet as a Wastebasket

Each flush can use up to 7 gallons of water.

### 19. Put a Plastic Bottle in the Tank

Fill a quart plastic bottle with water. Place it in the toilet tank away from the mechanism. The bottle will displace water and save on each flush and the toilet will still work properly.

## DISHWASHER (15 gallons/load)

### 20. Fill Your Dishwasher Before You Run It

When you wait until the load is full, you save water.

### 21. Don't Leave the Tap Running for Rinse Water.

If you have a double sink, fill the second one with rinse water. If you have a single sink, save the washed dishes in a rack and rinse them all at once with a sprayer or pan of water.

## CLOTHES WASHER (40-48 gallons/load)

### 22. Choose Your Water Level for Each Load

Adjust your washer for each load. Small loads need less water. If your washer has only one water level, wait for a full load before you do your laundry.

### 23. Keep a Bottle of Drinking Water in the Fridge

Refrigerated water is colder than tap water and on a hot day, it's more refreshing.

## RUNNING THE TAP (5 gallons/minute)

### 24. Don't Let the Tap Run When You Wash Vegetables

Rinse vegetables in a bowl or pan of clean water.

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