



## Water Conservation

### Water Conservation Starts Here

Everyone can make a significant contribution to minimize wastage of a very precious resource. Halifax Water also does its part with the adoption of the International Water Association (IWA) standard to minimize leakage and account for all water delivered through the distribution system. Although we operate a system with some of the oldest pipes in Canada, our leakage rates are amongst the best due to our focused approach.

Halifax Water also sells products at cost that customers can use to conserve water and lower their water bills. The following products can be purchased at our offices at 450 Cowie Hill Road, Halifax:

Toilet Dam	\$9.00 + HST
Displacement Bag/Toilet Tank Bank	\$2.00 + HST
Bathroom Aerator	\$1.50 + HST
Kitchen Aerator (swivel)	\$3.00 + HST
Earth Massage Low Flow Shower Head	\$6.00 + HST

### Water Saving Tips

#### Things you can do to save water in the bathroom

- Check your toilet for leaks. Put a little food colouring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the colour begins to appear in the bowl, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately.
- Stop using the toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. Every time you flush a cigarette butt, facial tissue, or other small bit of trash, you waste five to seven gallons of water.

- Take shorter showers. Long, hot showers can waste five to ten gallons every unneeded minute. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down, and rinse off.
- Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors. The Halifax Regional Water Commission sells water saving shower heads and other devices at cost to our customers.
- Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush. There is no need to keep water pouring down the drain. Just wet your toothbrush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.
- Rinse your razor in the sink. Fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of water. This will rinse your blade just as well as running water. And far less wastefully.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Even the smallest drip from a worn washer can waste 20 or more gallons a day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds.

## **Things you can do to save water outside**

- Deep-soak your lawn. When you do water, do it long enough for the moisture to soak down to the roots where it will do the most good. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems.
- Water during the cool parts of the day. Early morning generally is better than dusk since it helps prevent growth of fungus.
- Don't water the sidewalk or driveway. Position your sprinklers so water lands on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas. Also avoid watering on windy days.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Mulch will slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth too.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- Don't run the hose while washing your car. Clean the car with a pail of soapy water. Use the hose just to rinse it off.
- Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets, and couplings.
- Leaks outside the house may not seem as bad since they are not as visible. But they can be just as wasteful as leaks inside. Check frequently and keep them drip-free.

## Things you can do to save water in the kitchen and laundry

- Use your automatic dishwasher only for full loads.
- If you wash dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing. If you have two sinks, fill one with soapy water and one with rinse water. If you have only one sink, gather washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a spray device or a pan full of hot water.
- Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables. Just rinse them in a stoppered sink or a pan of clean water.
- Keep a container of drinking water in the refrigerator. Running tap water to cool it off for drinking water is wasteful.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Leaks waste water 24 hours a day, seven days a week and often can be repaired with only an inexpensive washer.