### **Water Saving Resources**

## **Environmental benefit of completing action**

Water conservation actions help to keep water supply levels higher, and keep our wetlands intact for other organisms in the environment. Slowing the flow through water conservation is the first and most effective action to take for our drought stricken state. By conserving culinary water, this also indirectly saves on the energy used to treat and transport water at water treatment plants.

# Financial benefit of completing action

Homes with high-efficiency plumbing fixtures and appliances save about 30 percent of indoor water use and yield substantial savings on water, sewer, and energy bills.

Item	Cost to install	Water savings	Dollar savings
Low flow toilet	\$200	9,000 gallons/year	\$100/year
Low flow urinal	\$200	4,600 gallons/year	\$80/year
Faucet aerator	\$10	700 gallons/year	\$50/year
Shower Head	\$50	2,700 gallons/year	\$65/year + Savings on energy bills

#### More information about completing action

### **Top Five Ways to Save**

- 1. **Stop leaks.** Check all water-using appliances, equipment, and other devices for leaks. Running toilets, steady faucet drips, home water treatment units, and outdoor sprinkler systems are common sources of leaks.
- 2. **Replace old toilets.** The major water use inside the home is toilet flushing. If your home was built before 1992 and you haven't replaced your toilets recently, you could benefit from installing a WaterSense labeled model that uses 1.28 gallons or less per flush. A family of four can save 16,000 gallons of water per year by making this change.
- Replace old clothes washers. Washers are the second largest water user in your home. If your clothes washer is old, you should consider replacing it with an ENERGY STAR certified clothes washer. Most ENERGY STAR clothes washers use four times less energy than those manufactured before 1999. To save more water,

- look for a clothes washer with a low water factor. The lower the water factor, the less water the machine uses. Water factor is listed on the certified product list.
- 4. **Install WaterSense labeled faucet aerators and showerheads.** WaterSense labeled products use at least 20 percent less water than standard models, while providing equal or superior performance. By installing WaterSense labeled faucet aerators and showerheads, the average family can save nearly 3,500 gallons of water and nearly 410 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year.
- 5. Plant the right plants. Whether you're installing a new landscape or changing the existing one, select plants that are appropriate for your climate. Consider landscaping techniques designed to create a visually attractive landscape by using low-water and drought-resistant grass, plants, shrubs, and trees. If maintained properly, climate-appropriate landscaping can use less than one-half the water of a traditional landscape.
- 6. Provide only the water plants need. Automatic landscape irrigation systems are a home's biggest water user. To make sure you're not overwatering, adjust your irrigation controller at least once a month to account for changes in the weather. Better yet, install a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller, which uses local weather and landscape conditions to water only when plants need it. Install a rain shutoff device, soil moisture sensor, or humidity sensor to further control irrigation

#### Local resources

(this table might not work, but I put it in anyways)

Water Friendly Appliances	<u>Here</u>
Mountain Regional Water Audit	<u>Here</u>
Learn how to do your own water audit	<u>Here</u>
Incentives for landscaping with native plants	<u>Here</u>



Replacing your old showerheads with WATERSENSE LABELED showerheads could save 2,700 GALLONS per year