

Ways to use our drinking water wisely



By following these guidelines, you can have a direct impact on peak water usage, which translates into lower

cost for your water and more money in your pocket.

The Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office operates and maintains water supply systems in various communities.

We strive to maintain or exceed all local, state and federal water quality standards within our control. We are committed to providing quality service and progressive solutions to our water supply customers, while giving full value to the services provided.

If you have questions regarding your water, please call

248-858-1110.



One Public Works Drive
Building 95 West
Waterford MI 48328-1907

Phone: 248-858-1110
Fax: 248-858-1066
www.oakgov.com/drain

Effective Use Of Our Drinking Water



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Drinking water is a vital resource in our community. We use this resource in many ways and using it wisely is important. Your water supply comes

from surface water (Lake St. Clair, Lake Huron or the Detroit River) and is transported to your community via the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department water system.

Using water wisely helps the environment by decreasing unnecessary wastewater discharges and lets us keep more of the money we earn in our pocket.

Water systems operate most economically when customers conserve outdoor water use during peak times—generally between 5 to 9 a.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. By reducing the amount of water use during peak times, future capital expenditures (for additional pump stations, storage facilities and distribution piping) can be minimized. Conversely, excessive use during peak demands will accelerate capital spending, which directly impacts your water costs.

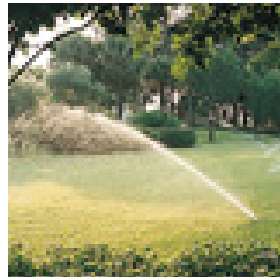
Outdoor Water Use

Outdoor water use consumes a large volume of water. There are ways to reduce and use the water wisely.

- Sweep driveways, sidewalks and steps rather than hosing them off.
- Control hose flow with an automatic shutoff nozzle, remove nozzle after use.
- Wash vehicles where run off is utilized by plants rather than discharging into storm drains.
- Use mulch around trees, shrubs and in the garden.
- Use plants that are adapted to our location, they require less water.

There are many theories on the best way to care for your lawn. The recommendations listed here are based on studies conducted by Michigan State University over the last six years.

- The best time of day to water is early afternoon just before the highest temperature period of the day. If possible, water between noon and 4:00 p.m.
- Lawn turf generally requires 0.5 to 1.5 inches of water per week. Remember to adjust watering after rain events.



- Light, frequent applications of water are much more productive than once a week heavy applications. Light applications resist disease and pests.
- For every-other-day watering schedules, water for 30-40 minutes (average 0.1 to 0.2 inches per day).
- Avoid excessive watering, direct flow away from sidewalks and driveways.

Indoor Water Use

There are many ways that we use our drinking water supply in our homes. Indoor water use consumes 50 to 70 gallons per person per day. Again, there are ways that we can utilize our water more wisely.

- Fix leaks such as running toilets and steady faucet drips. Check for toilet leaks by putting food coloring dye in the toilet tank.
- Replace old toilets with a high-efficiency toilet or add a toilet dam or rock-filled container to the tank. Only three gallons of water are necessary to flush the toilet.



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