

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

With the upcoming holiday season, we are all concerned about our finances. One way to save money is to conserve water. When you conserve water, not only will your water bill decrease, but your sewer bill will decrease as well. Inside your house, bathroom facilities claim nearly 75% of the water used. Here are a few simple ways to conserve water.

💧 Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden, or for cleaning around your home.

💧 Verify that your home is leak free. Many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there may be a leak.

💧 Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at a rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year. This adds to the cost of water and sewer utilities and increases your bill.

💧 Retrofit all household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors to slow the flow of water.

💧 Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the toilet bowl within 30 minutes. Check the toilet for worn out, corroded or bent parts. Most replacement parts are inexpensive, readily available and easily installed. (Flush as soon as test is done, since food coloring may stain tank.)

💧 If the toilet handle sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.

💧 Take shorter showers. Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version. Some units are available that allow you to cut off the flow without adjusting the water temperature knobs.

💧 In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather up; then turn back on to rinse off. Repeat when washing your hair.

💧 Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded. Set the water level for the size of load you are using.

💧 When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet and catch the water for rinsing the remaining dishes.

💧 Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't let the tap run while you are waiting for cool water to flow.

💧 Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.

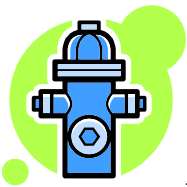
💧 Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing of food waste, instead of using a garbage disposal.

💧 Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster and avoid wasting water while it heats up.

💧 Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face. Brush your teeth first while waiting for water to get hot, then wash or shave after filling the basin.

💧 Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.

💧 Try to do one thing each day that will result in saving water. Don't worry if the savings are minimal. Every drop counts and can make a difference.



ADOPT A HYDRANT PROGRAM

Please consider adopting a hydrant in your neighborhood. You may assist by keeping it clear of snow and ice. In the event of a fire this saves time and may save lives! Also, please allow access to meters at all times. Thank you!

DRINKING WATER WATCHERS PROGRAM

Algoma Utilities would like to thank the participants of our Drinking Water Watchers Program. This program is designed to safeguard our drinking water by having citizens report suspicious activity. If you notice any suspicious activity around or near any utility property, please feel free to call the Kewaunee County Sheriff Department at 388-3100. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact us at 487-5556.