

Citizen's Guide to the Michigan Wellhead Protection Program



Adopted from
Michigan Rural Water Association's
Source Water Protection Program Article Series

1.6

PROTECT YOUR WATER: CONSERVE

WHY DO I NEED TO CONSERVE WATER?

Water conservation is the most cost effective and environmentally sound way to reduce our demand for water. Conserving water will allow us to extend our supply well into the future. Many states are already having water shortage issues. Since the 1970's, virtually all communities in the United States have grown significantly, but the amount of water produced is the same. Consequently, it is important that we learn to conserve so that future generations will have the same fresh water that we have been blessed with to enjoy!

Did you know...
Producing 8 ounces of milk requires 48 million gallons of water!

Leak This Size (at 60 psi water pressure)		Water Loss in Gallons		Annual Loss in Dollars (at \$5.00 per 1,000 gallon rate)
		Per Day	Per Month	
1/32"	•	203	6,166	370
1/16"	•	811	24,666	1,480
1/8"	•	3,244	98,666	5,920
1/4"	•	12,948	393,833	23,630

Conserving water can also conserve money!!
If you have a leak, see how much water you will pay for over time!

TOP 10 THINGS THAT WILL SAVE WATER

- ✓ Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need to be watered.
- ✓ Do not run the hose while you are washing your car.
- ✓ Install water saving shower heads or flow restrictors.
- ✓ Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissue and other waste in the trashcan instead.
- ✓ Use a broom instead of a hose to clean the driveways and sidewalks.
- ✓ Capture tap water. While you are waiting for warm water, catch the water coming out and use it to water houseplants or your garden.
- ✓ Run only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher.
- ✓ Shorten your showers.
- ✓ Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints.
- ✓ Do not water the sidewalks, driveway or gutter.

Did you know...
Producing a typical American Thanksgiving dinner for six people requires over 30,000 gallons of water!