

## Conservation

As residents of the Commonwealth, we all have a responsibility to conserve water.

As the infrastructure of our State continually changes, conservation becomes a more pertinent issue. Water is a precious resource and there is a limited supply, so please, remember to only use what you need.



*"Do you take it for granted that every time you turn the faucet on, you have water? As a water steward, it is my duty to share some important tips on how you can conserve water. Please read these valuable tips and see how you can help conserve water."*

## Indoor Water Conservation Tips

Typically, inside your house, bathroom facilities constitute nearly 75% of the water used.

### Bathroom Tips:

- Check all faucets, pipes and toilets periodically for leaks
- Install water saving shower heads and fixtures
- Install a low-flow toilet
- Turn off water while shaving and brushing teeth
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket

### Kitchen and Laundry Tips:

- Fill your dishwasher before you run it
- Don't let the water run while rinsing vegetables and dishes
- Select proper water level for laundry

## Outdoor Water Conservation Tips

- Water the lawn only when needed
- Install an automatic irrigation system
- Plant drought resistant trees and plants
- Keep lawn free of weeds
- Mow grass higher than normal
- Don't let the hose run while washing the car
- Use a broom to clean the sidewalk and driveway instead of a hose
- Use automatic shut-off nozzles on hoses

## What Makes Water Hard?

Water hardness is referred to as a measure of the soap or detergent consuming power of water. Technically, the salts of calcium and magnesium that are commonly present in natural water cause hardness.

In the water industry hardness is expressed in terms of milligrams per liter (mg/l). In the water treatment business hardness is most often expressed in terms of grains per gallon (gr/gal). The conversion factor is 17.1 mg/l equals 1 gr/gal of hardness. The table that follows describes the various textbook levels of hardness:

Description	Hardness (mg/l)	Hardness (gr/gal)
Extremely Soft	0-45	0-2.6
Soft	46-90	2.6-5.2
Moderately Hard	91-130	5.2-7.6
Hard	131-170	7.6-9.9
Very Hard	171-250	10.0-14.6





