

waterings

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Saving Water = Saving Money!

You have a lot of influence over your water usage and, as a result, your water bill!

Conservation

The simplest way to cut back on water usage is to use water wisely. Simple things such as turning off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving can save precious gallons of water. Only running your washing machine or dishwasher when full will save even more.

Here's an example of how each person conserving water can have a huge impact. If everyone in the United States flushed the toilet just one less time per day, we could save a lake full of water about a mile long, a mile wide, and four feet deep every day.

If everyone in the U.S. could manage to use just one less gallon of water per shower every day, we could save some 85 billion gallons per year. How do you do it? Keep the shower pressure lower and make your showers a few seconds shorter.

Visit our website at www.nwwater.com for a listing of many helpful tips for conserving water. You may also download a free copy of the Water Wizard's Guide to Water Conservation.

Check for Leaks

Little leaks add up in a hurry. A faucet drip that totals only two tablespoons a minute comes to 15 gallons a day. That's 105 gallons a week and 5,460 wasted gallons of water a year.

A single dripping faucet can waste far more water in a single day than one person needs for drinking in an entire week. Don't wait to fix a drip. Do it now!

Outside Your Home:

If you have a soft, wet spot on your lawn or hear the sound of running water, you may have a leak in the service line to your house. Water soaks into the ground, causing the soft spots. Please call our office immediately at 215-699-4836 so that our service personnel can come out to inspect the line.

If it is determined that there is a leak on your service line, it would be your responsibility to repair it because it is owned by you. Consider enrolling in our Lateral Maintenance Program to protect you in the event of a leak. Sign up on-line at www.nwwater.com/go/lateral or call our office to request an application.

Inside Your Home:

If you think you have a water leak, your water meter is your best detective to help you find it.

First, turn off all faucets and water-using appliances, such as dish and clothes washers.

Next, locate your water meter and take a reading. Wait 20-30 minutes and take another reading. Make sure no one runs any water while you're waiting!!

If the numbers are not the same, you probably have a leak somewhere in your system.

Another way to check for a leak is by checking the "low flow indicator" on your meter. Located on the face of your meter, the indicator should not be moving when all faucets, fixtures and appliances are turned off.



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Summer Conservation Charge Explained

This charge, sometimes referred to as the excess use charge, is designed to promote conservation. It is only activated during the warmer, peak outdoor water usage months.

The conservation charge is calculated by averaging the number of gallons from your two winter quarter bills, then adding 40% or 12,000 gallons, whichever is greater.

Once you have exceeded this allowance, a conservation charge of \$1.60 per 1,000 gallons is added to your bill for every 1,000 gallons you are over the allowance.

Customers who might incur a conservation charge on their bill include:

- Those with sprinkler or irrigation systems for their lawns
- Those who heavily water their lawns and/or gardens
- Those with either in- or above-ground pools
- Those who have extra persons in their home in the summer months, such as out-of-town guests or children home from college

Manage Your Account Online

Your account information is accessible to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, once you register online at www.nwwater.com. Simply click the "Pay On-Line" link and "Register."

To register, you will need a copy of your most recent NWWA bill so that you can enter in your account number and the amount due for that bill. Also enter your email address and click "Register" to sign up. You will receive an email from NWWA with a personal identification number which you will then use to login and view your account information and/or pay your bill.

While you are registering, sign up for Electronic Notification and you will receive an email from us whenever your water bill is ready and due to be paid. By signing up for Electronic Notification, you will no longer receive a paper bill in the mail. For more information, visit our website at www.nwwater.com.



Q: *Does the Authority use chloramines for disinfection purposes?*

A: Chloramines are produced in drinking water by adding ammonia to the free chlorine used for disinfection purposes. Chloramines are weaker disinfectants than chlorine but can maintain a residual for a longer period of time. The combination does reduce disinfection by-products in many systems, however, can cause problems by making the water corrosive to system components and residential plumbing fixtures. This method of disinfection can also cause problems with dialysis equipment and aquariums as the nitrogen in the ammonia diminishes the oxygen carrying capacity of the blood.

Although the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant utilizes ozone as the primary disinfectant throughout the treatment process, all water produced at the plant has a disinfectant residual from the injection of chlorine as it enters the distribution system. This is due to the fact that ozone has a very short chemical life and dissipates out of water rapidly. Additionally, chlorine residuals are checked and maintained at various points throughout the distribution system.

We are currently using two forms of chlorine; gas and sodium hypochlorite solution. The hypochlorite solution being used at Forest Park is actually generated on-site. Hypochlorite used in the distribution system is either in liquid solution or tablets depending on the facility and application.

The Authority has never used chloramines for disinfection purposes and does not anticipate its use in the future.

**Water Rings is published Quarterly to Serve our Customers in:
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