

## Your Water Bill Can Save You Money

Your utility bill has a 13-month history of water use. You can use this feature to determine if your consumption is comparable to what you have used in the past. If it's higher, check for leaks or adjust your use accordingly.

Remember, Tumwater bills water in CCFs, which is 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons. Water bills are formulated using a conservation-based tier structure, which means the more water you use, the more expensive it becomes.

### Tumwater Water Rate Structure

	Volume of water used (cubic feet)	Charge per 100 cubic feet (CCF)
Block 1	0-600	\$1.69
Block 2	601-1200	\$1.87
Block 3	1201-2400	\$2.23
Block 4	2401+	\$2.92

## How Much Is a Cubic Foot of Water?

- One cubic foot of water is equivalent to 7.48 gallons.
- The average bathtub holds 4-8 cubic feet of water.
- A dishwasher uses about 2 cubic feet per cycle.
- A 10-minute shower, uses approximately 4-6 cubic feet of water.
- Outdoor watering with one garden hose uses about 40 cubic feet of water every hour.

## More Reasons to Save Water

In addition to the savings you may see in your water bill, saving water can help reduce your energy bill. Saving water can also postpone or eliminate the need for our community to build expensive infrastructure, such as wastewater and water treatment plants, saving you more money down the road.

Ensuring a healthy environment and adequate fresh drinking water for future generations requires that we make good decisions today.

**Conserving water is always the right choice.**



City of Tumwater Public Works Department  
555 Israel Road SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501  
360-754-4140

<https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/departments/water-resources-&-sustainability>

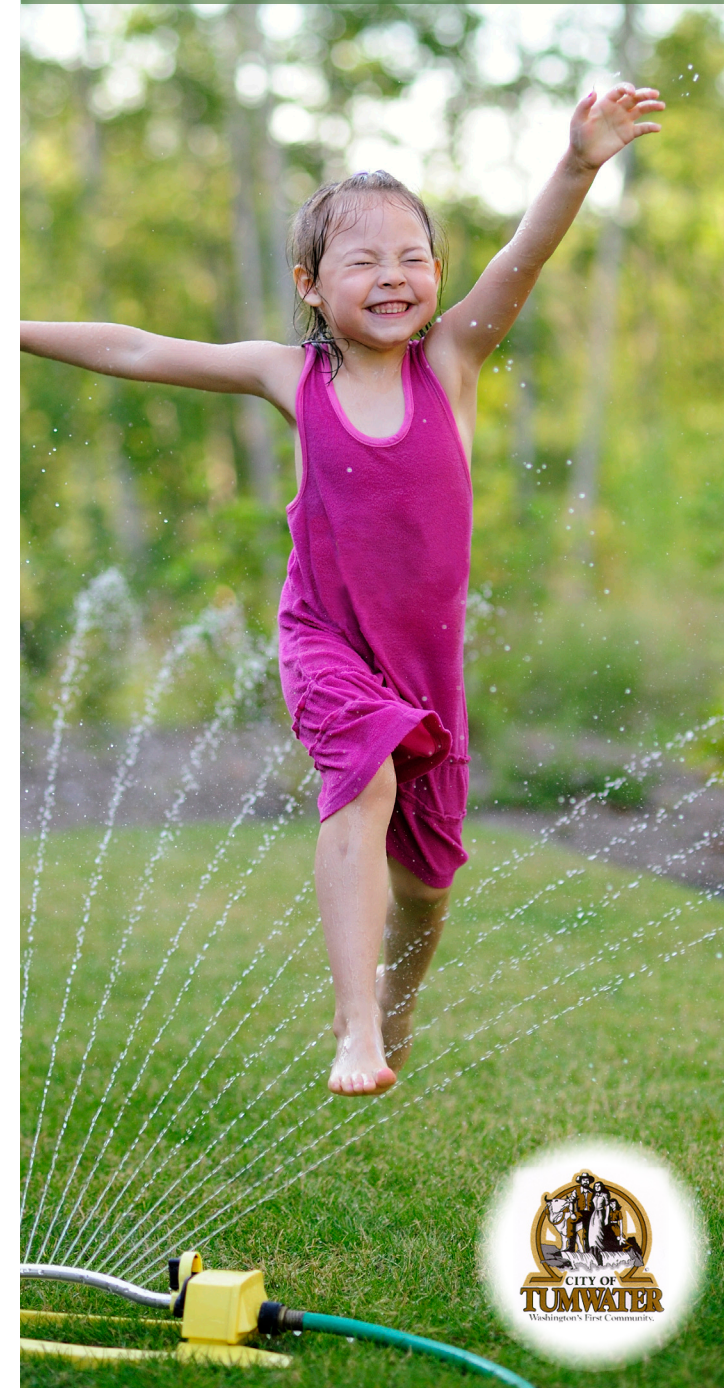
For additional tips on saving water and reducing your water bill, visit the *100 Ways to Save Water* at the *Water Use It Wisely* Web site:

[www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)

For additional information regarding indoor water conservation and locally available rebate programs, visit:

<https://lottcleanwater.org/>

## Your Guide to Saving Water and Money

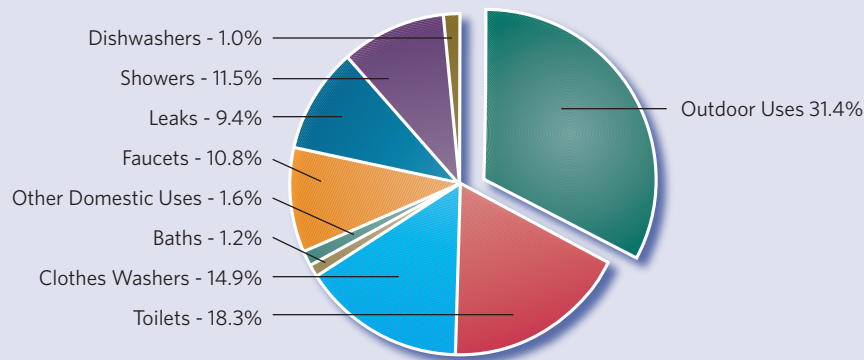


## Save Water Indoors

### Follow These Tips for Saving Water *Indoors*

- Replace older toilets with ultra-low flush or high-efficiency models.
- Check toilets for leaks by putting dye tablets or food coloring into the tank. If, after a few moments, color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak that needs repair.
- Install low-flow faucet aerators and showerheads.
- Take shorter showers. Shorter showers mean less water used and lower utility bills.
- Turn off water while shaving and/or brushing your teeth.
- Only wash full loads of clothes and dishes.
- Learn how to use your water meter to check for leaks in and around your home.
- Pick up a free indoor water saving kit from your Tumwater Water Utility.

**Including outdoor uses, the average American uses 101 gallons of water daily. Here's where it typically goes....**



*Your Tumwater Water Utility partners with the LOTT Alliance to offer businesses and homeowners rebates on water-saving projects, appliances and fixtures.*

*For more information, call 360-754-4140 or visit*

*<https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/departments/water-resources-sustainability/water-resources>*

## Save Water Outdoors

### Follow These Tips for Saving Water *Outdoors*

- Water early in the morning or early evening to reduce evaporation.
- Set lawn mower blades one notch higher. Longer grass means deeper roots, less evaporation and the need to use less water.
- Reduce watering on cool and overcast days and never water in the rain. Northwest grasses typically only need one inch of water per week during the hottest summer months, and less in the spring.
- If you have an automated irrigation system, install a rain sensor.
- Always make sure irrigation systems are properly maintained and shut off at the end of the irrigation season.
- Replace irrigated grass with native and drought-tolerant plants, which use considerably less water.
- Sweep walkways and driveways instead of hosing them down.
- Pick up a free outdoor water saving kit from your Tumwater Water Utility.

## Leaking Water Equals Lost Money

*Try this simple test to see if you have a water leak:*

- Begin by turning off all indoor and outdoor faucets and water-using appliances.
- Locate your water meter and open the cover to view the meter dial.
- Either record the position of the sweep hand or place a piece of tape over the lens cover and mark the location of the sweep hand.
- After 30 minutes of not using any water, check the sweep hand location. If the sweep hand has moved, you may have a leak.



### Common Sources of Household Leaks

- Toilets are a leading source of indoor leaks, and often the leaking is silent.
- Worn out washers can cause faucets and showerheads to become leaky. These small drips can add up to 170 gallons of water each day!
- Check for moist spots around indoor and outdoor plumbing and, if possible, under your house.
- Garden hoses and irrigation systems can develop leaks over time. Be sure to maintain these systems on a regular basis.