

water smart home

15 TIPS FOR 3 ROOMS: SAVE WATER, MONEY & HELP THE EARTH

Room

How to save water & money in the kitchen

- Only use a full dishwasher. Believe it or not, one load of dishes per day uses about 14,500 litres of water a year. Also, use the energy saver or shortest cycle.
- Turn off the rinse water when hand-washing dishes. With two sinks, partially fill both: one with soapy water

and the other with rinse water. With one sink, rinse the washed dishes in a pan full of hot water or in a dish rack with a spray.

- Keep your drinking water in the fridge. This saves leaving the tap running while you wait for cold water.
- Install a low-flow aerator on your taps. This reduces water use by 25 percent.
- Water should be the only thing that goes down your drain. Use a composter, green bin or garbage for food waste.
- Wash your food in a bowl of water rather than running the tap.
- It's better to defrost food in your fridge than under cold water.

A steady drip from your kitchen faucet can waste up to 55 litres of water in just 24 hours



Room 2

How to save water & money in the bathroom

- Buy an ultra-low-flush toilet that flushes 6 litres of water, dual-flush (flushes 3 or 6 litres of water) or HET (high-efficiency toilet, flushes 4.8 litres of water). Older toilets can use more than 20 litres of water per flush. These toilets use only 6 litres of water or less — and can save an average family roughly \$100-\$150 per year on water bills. The City of Toronto offers a toilet-replacement rebate program to Toronto residents only for City-selected toilets that meet all high-performance flushing requirements. Call 416-392-7000 or visit www.toronto.ca/water for more information.
- Fix leaking toilets. A leaky toilet can waste up to 200,000 litres of water in a year — enough to fill a large swimming pool. (Test for leaks by adding a few drops of food colouring to the tank. If, after 15 minutes without flushing, colour shows up in the bowl, you have a leak.)
- Install a new water-efficient showerhead. The older showerheads use from 15 to 30 litres of water per minute, while the new ones use less than 10 litres per minute — and they save on water-heating energy bills, too.
- Replace the aerator on your tap with a water-efficient one.
- Don't run the tap continuously when washing, brushing your teeth or shaving.

We use about 50 percent of our indoor water in our bathrooms

Room

How to save water & money in the laundry room

- Purchase a front-loading, high-efficiency washing machine. It uses 40 percent less water and 60 percent less energy than a conventional top-loading washer. **If you live in the City of Toronto, check out the City's washer**

Your laundry room is the 2nd largest water-user inside your home

program to receive a \$60 rebate. Call

416-392-7000 or visit www.toronto.ca/water for more information.

- Only wash a full load of laundry. Use the right water level to match the size of the load. High-efficiency washers automatically adjust the water level to the size of the load.
- Save on your dry-cleaning bills. Most "dry-clean only" clothes can be washed in a front-loading high-efficiency washing machine, so buying one will help you save money with these bills, too.

CleanWater Foundation

The Clean Water Foundation is a Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to engaging individuals in actions that preserve, protect and improve our water.

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