



# Randolph Fire District #1

## Randolph Center, VT 05061

### Water Conservation Tips:

1. Check faucets and pipes for leaks - a small drip from a worn faucet can waste 20 gallons of water per day.
2. Check your toilet for leaks by putting a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak.
3. Use your water meter to check for hidden leaks – read the water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.
4. Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucets – Inexpensive water-saving low-flow shower heads or restrictors are easy for the homeowner to install. Also, long, hot showers can use five to ten gallons every unneeded minute. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down and rinse off. "Low-flow" means it uses less than 2.5 gallons per minute.
5. Put plastic bottles or float booster in your toilet tank – To cut down on water waste, put an inch or two of sand or pebbles inside each of two plastic bottles to weigh them down. Fill the bottles with water, screw the lids on, and put them in your toilet tank, safely away from the operating mechanisms. Or, buy an inexpensive tank ball or float booster. This may save ten or more gallons of water per day. Replacing an 18 liter per flush toilet with an ultra-low volume (ULV) 6 liter flush model represents a 70% savings in water flushed and will cut indoor water use by about 30%.
6. Insulate your water pipes – It's easy and inexpensive to insulate your water pipes with pre-slit foam pipe insulation. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.
7. Take shorter showers – One way to cut down on water use is to turn off the shower after soaping up, then turn it back on to rinse. A four-minute shower uses approximately 20 to 40 gallons of water.
8. Turn off water after you wet your tooth brush – There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.
9. Rinse your razor in the sink – Fill the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your razor just as well as running water, with far less waste of water.
10. Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads.
11. Minimize use of kitchen sink garbage disposals – In-sink 'garburators' require lots of water to operate properly, and also add considerably to the volume of solids in a septic tank which can lead to maintenance problems. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste.
12. When washing dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing – while you're waiting for the water to warm up, collect the cold water in a bucket and use it for flushing your toilet.
13. Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables – just rinse them in a stoppered sink or a pan of clean water.
14. Keep a bottle of water in the fridge - Running tap water to cool it off for drinking water is wasteful. Store drinking water in the fridge in a safe drinking bottle.

**There are many ways to save on water consumption. An online search for "water conservation methods" will result in many suggestions and tips on how to save water and reduce your water bill.**