Water Conservation

1.  Check your toilet for leaks. Put a few drops of food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the coloring begins to appear in the bowl, you have a leak that may be wasting more than 100 gallons of water a day. Fix it.

2.  Put a plastic bottle in your toilet tank. Put an inch or two of sand or pebbles in the bottom of a quart bottle to weigh it down. Fill the rest of the bottle with water and put it in your toilet tank, safely away from the operating mechanism. In an average home, the bottle may save five gallons or more of water every day without harming the efficiency of the toilet.

3.  Take a shorter shower. A typical shower uses five to ten gallons of water per minute. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash and rinse off.

4.  Install water-saving shower heads. Your hardware or plumbing supply store stocks inexpensive shower heads or flow restrictions that will cut your shower flow up to three gallons a minute instead of five to ten.

5.  Take baths. A partially filled tub uses less water than all but the shortest showers.

6.  Turn off the water while brushing your teeth. Before brushing, wet your brush and fill a glass for rinsing your mouth.

7.  Turn off the water while shaving. Fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of warm water in which to rinse your razor.

8.  Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Even a small drip can waste 50 or more gallons of water per day!

9.  Use automatic dishwasher for full loads only. Every time you run your dishwasher; you use up to 25 gallons of water.

10.  Use your washing machine for full loads only. Your automatic washer uses 30 to 35 gallons a cycle. Too much for a few shirts.