

Home Water Use Survey

1. Shower

Total number of showers taken by your household per day times the average number of minutes spent in the shower times 3 gallons per minute (an average flow rate). (If you have calculated your actual flow rate or if you have flow restrictors with known 1.4 gallons per minute (gpm) flow rates, substitute those rates here.)

GALLONS USED IN SHOWER PER DAY:

_____ showers X _____ minutes per shower X 3 gpm = _____ gallons.

2. Bath

Total number of baths taken by all members of your household per week times 30 gallons per bath equals gallons used weekly for baths. Divide by 7 for daily bath use.

GALLONS USED IN BATHS PER DAY:

_____ baths X 30 gallons ÷ 7 = _____ gallons.

3. Toilets

Total number of people times 4 flushes (an estimated average) times 3.5 gallons per flush (a typical post-1980 toilet) or 1.6 gallons per flush with a modern low-flush toilet equals the total water used in flushing.

GALLONS USED IN FLUSHING PER DAY:

_____ persons X 4 flushes X 3.5 gallons = _____ gallons.

4. Faucets

Total number of persons in household times # times each person uses faucet per day times average time in minutes each person uses faucet times 3 gallons per minute (a typical flow rate). Count shaving, tooth brushing, hand washing, etc.

GALLONS USED BY FAUCETS PER DAY:

_____ persons X _____ number times faucets used X _____ minutes faucet used X 3 gpm = _____ gallons.

5. Laundry

Number of loads per week X 50 gallons (a typical usage per load) equals gallons used in laundry per week. Divide by 7 to get daily usage.

GALLONS USED IN LAUNDRY PER DAY:

(_____ loads per week X 50 gallons) ÷ 7 days = _____ gallons.

6. Dishwasher

Number of times dishwasher is used per week X 15 gallons (a typical usage per load) equals gallons used in dishwasher per week. Divide by 7 to get daily usage.

GALLONS USED IN DISHWASHER PER DAY:

_____ times per week X 15 gallons ÷ 7 days = _____ gallons.

7. Hand dish washing

Number of times hand dish washing is done per week multiplied by minutes water is running times 3 gallons per minute equals gallons used in hand washing per week. Divide by 7 to get daily usage.

GALLONS USED IN HAND DISH WASHING:

(_____ times per week X _____ minutes used X 3 gpm) ÷ 7 days = _____ gallons.

8. Garbage disposal

Number of times garbage disposal is used per week multiplied by minutes water is running times 3 gallons per minute equals gallons used in garbage disposal. Divide by 7 to get daily usage.

GALLONS USED IN GARBAGE DISPOSAL:

(_____ times per week X _____ minutes X 3 gpm) ÷ 7 days = _____ gallons.

ADD TOTALS ABOVE TO FIND YOUR TOTAL DAILY HOUSEHOLD INDOOR WATER USE = _____ GALLONS

1. Yard irrigation

Number of times lawn and other plants are watered each week times minutes per watering times 3 gallons per minute equals irrigation use per week. Divide by 7 to calculate daily usage. (If you have an irrigation well, gallons used will not be on your water bill. If you use reclaimed water for irrigation, this total will appear separately on your bill.)

GALLONS USED TO WATER PLANTS DAILY:

(_____ times X _____ minutes per watering X 3 gpm) ÷ 7 = _____ gallons.

2. Other outdoor water uses

List your outdoor water use activities with the minutes the faucet runs for each activity. Some examples are car washing, pool refilling, cleaning outdoor furniture and equipment, etc.

Add these minutes together and multiply times 3 gallons per minute. Divide by 7 to calculate daily usage.

ADD TOTALS IN 1 AND 2 TO FIND YOUR TOTAL DAILY HOUSEHOLD

GALLONS USED OUTSIDE (ASIDE FROM IRRIGATION) DAILY:

(_____ minutes water used per week X 3 gpm) ÷ 7 = _____ gallons.

OUTDOOR WATER USE = _____ GALLONS.

Add total indoor water use and outdoor water use to get total household water use = _____ GALLONS.

(Then divide by the number of people in your household to find daily per capita water use. Typical per capita use is 100-200 gallons. If your total is far from this, recheck your calculations).

Using total household water use (not the per capita use), calculate the following:

% indoor water use = $\frac{\text{total indoor water use}}{\text{total household water use}}$ = _____ %

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If most use is indoors, what fixture uses the most? Think about replacing that fixture with a new water-conserving fixture, and/or convince household members to change water use habits.

Flyers on using water efficiently are available from WAV at <http://www.wavh2o.com>, the St. Johns River Water Management District at <http://www.sjrwm.com>, and University of Florida Extension at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>. Consider changing your landscape to use more water-wise (xeriscape) plants.