



# WATER BILL WOES???

## HELP IS ON THE WAY!!!



Montana State University Extension Water Quality and the City of Bozeman Water and Sewer District have put together some **WATER SAVING TIPS** to help **conserve water** and **save you money!**!\$!\$



### Cool, Clear WATER

If you like cold water to drink, keep a pitcher of water in the fridge instead of running the tap until the water cools. You can save 2 gallons of water PER DRINK!

### GOT LEAKS?

REPAIR THOSE LEAKY FAUCETS! It's amazing how much one little drip can add up to in a year! You can calculate how much water you're losing from that leaky faucet with the WaterWiser® Drip Calculator on the American Water Works Association web page at

<http://www.awwa.org/advocacy/learn/conserve/dripcalc.cfm>



FYI...5 drips a minute = 263 gallons of water a year...now THAT'S throwin' money down the drain!

### IN GENERAL

- ❖ Catch water in a jug while waiting for it to warm and use it for drinking, watering plants or pets.
- ❖ Buy low-flow showerheads and aerators for your faucets.
  - ❖ Only do full loads of laundry or dishes.
  - ❖ If you have to replace your washing machine, consider a front-loading one. They use ~75% less water, save energy, and hold more laundry.
  - ❖ Save water and energy by insulating water heaters and hot water pipes.
  - ❖ If you have to replace your water softener, consider one with a "hardness sensor" that will automatically trigger regeneration as needed. This makes the most efficient use of both water and salt.
- ❖ Consider buying environmentally friendly cleaners - many cleaners contain chemicals which are not broken down by sewage treatment and can cause damage after they pass through the sewer system and enter our water.



### IN THE BATHROOM

#### Shower vs. Bath

- ❖ Taking a 5-minute shower instead of a bath can save 15 gallons of water!
- ❖ If you do take a bath - close the drain before starting the water - you won't even notice that first bit of cold water by the time the tub is full.
- ❖ Take shorter showers and/or turn off water while applying soap and shampoo.



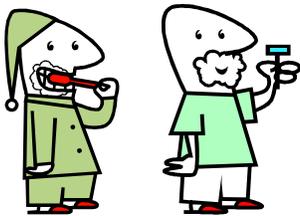
## Toilet Time



- ❖ Don't use toilets as wastebaskets - flush only when you need to.
- ❖ The saying "If it's yellow let it mellow, if it's brown flush it down" may seem funny BUT it can save you 12 or more gallons of water a day - that's at least 4,380 gallons of water a year!
- ❖ Replace your toilet with a low-flush model - older toilets can use 5-6 gallons per flush while low-flushers only use 1.5 gallons and work just fine. You can also use your old toilet to save over 1,000 gallons of water per person per year: Put 1 gallon or 2 quart bottles of water in the tank to displace toilet flows.
- ❖ Fix leaky toilets! A leaky toilet can waste as much as 200 gallons of water A DAY!



## Brush Brush Shave Shave



- ❖ When you're brushing your teeth use a glassful of water for rinsing instead of running the tap. You can save 3 or more gallons of water per brushing!
- ❖ Turning off the water while shaving (girls and guys) can save more than 5 gallons of water per day!



## IN THE KITCHEN

### Dishes Dishes Dishes...



- ❖ When doing dishes by hand you can save up to 25 gallons of water by filling the sink with soap and water instead of running water the whole time.
- ❖ If you're buying a dishwasher, look for models that are more water efficient. Some of the new models have a smaller upper drawer for light/normal loads and a larger bottom drawer for those times when you have lots of dishes. FYI...a full dishwasher is more water efficient than washing the same amount of dishes by hand! WOOOHOOO - another benefit of dishwashers!

### Cooking



- ❖ Cover pots while cooking - this uses less water, saves energy and your water will boil faster.
- ❖ Use less water when cooking/steaming veggies - this also reduces nutrient loss.
- ❖ Use the leftover water from veggies for soups or sauces - this adds flavor and nutrients.
- ❖ Thaw frozen foods in the refrigerator, not under running tap water. This can save 5 or more gallons of water each time.
- ❖ Start a compost pile instead of using the garbage disposal.



**COMING NEXT MONTH...**

**WATER CONSERVATION OUTSIDE YOUR HOME!**

More info? [http://glacier.bozeman.net/water/water\\_conservation\\_tips.aspx](http://glacier.bozeman.net/water/water_conservation_tips.aspx) or <http://waterquality.montana.edu>

