

BE WATERWISE



ILLINOIS  
AMERICAN WATER



Water wisdom  
starts at home.



## **DEMAND FOR WATER IS INCREASING.**

The U.S. Geological Survey says that nearly 20 billion gallons of water are used each day in Illinois. Statewide water usage is projected to increase almost 28 percent by 2025 according to a report from Southern Illinois University's Department of Geography. Continued growth and development will drive the need for more water. Local governments, business leaders, and homeowners can work together to promote conservation to help ensure our water resources are available for future generations.

## **OUR WATER SUPPLY IS NOT UNLIMITED.**

Even though Lake Michigan provides an abundant source of water, there is still a state imposed limit on how much water public and private companies can withdraw annually from Lake Michigan. Currently, 201 public water supply systems serving more than 6.8 million northeastern Illinois residents rely upon Lake Michigan for their water supply. In fact, approximately 34 percent of the total water usage in Illinois each year comes from Lake Michigan.

## **WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES IN EFFECT FROM MAY 15 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15**

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**The following water conservation measures will be in effect from May 15 through September 15 in our northern Illinois operations. These measures are approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission for communities served by Illinois American Water with water that originates in Lake Michigan.**

Watering of lawns and other outdoor consumptive uses may only be done on an “odd/even” watering basis. Customers whose street addresses end in an odd number may water only on an odd numbered calendar day. Customers whose street addresses end in an even number may water only on an even numbered calendar day.

In Orland Hills and Orland Park, watering of lawns and other consumptive outside uses are only permitted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., and between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

In the event of extended drought and/or water shortages by water supply agencies, all outside uses may be banned. Enforcement of Illinois American Water’s conservation program will be the responsibility of individual municipalities by ordinance.

NOTE: If you live in a village or town with its own water conservation program, please follow the local village ordinance.

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# BE WATERWISE

## INDOORS

- Check for leaks. Dripping faucets can waste as much as 2,700 gallons of water per year. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day.
- You can check your toilets for leaks by placing a drop of food coloring into your toilet's tank. Don't flush. Check the water bowl in 15 minutes. If the color flows into your toilet bowl, there is probably a leak.
- Run dishwashers and clothes washers only when full. Use the load-size selector.
- Replace your showerhead with a water-efficient model.
- Turn the water off while brushing your teeth. Rinse with a glass of water.
- Install a water displacement device in your toilet's tank. (A plastic bag/bottle filled with water to reduce the amount of water and still provide enough to flush.)
- If you wash dishes by hand, turn the water off and on when rinsing rather than letting it run.
- Soak pans rather than scrubbing them while the water is running.
- Rinse your vegetables in a pan of cold water.

# HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## OUTDOORS

- Avoid over-watering your lawn. One inch of water per week in the summer will keep most grasses healthy.
- Water lawns early in the morning or in the evening during the hotter summer months. Avoid watering on windy days.
- Choose plants that are drought tolerant, heat tolerant, and are tolerant of the minimum winter temperatures.
- Use a broom, and not a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- For plants that need more water, use a watering can or a hose on low pressure.
- Use lots of mulch around your shrubs and trees to retain moisture, reduce run-off, moderate soil temperatures and help with weed control.
- Avoid over-fertilizing! Get a soil kit to determine what nutrients your soil needs. If you apply fertilizer only in the spring and fall, your grass will be healthy, use less water and need mowing less frequently.
- If you have a swimming pool, get a cover. You'll cut the loss of water by evaporation by 90 percent.

**To learn more about being WATERWISE  
and how you can make a difference, call  
(630) 739-8810 or visit [www.illinoisamwater.com](http://www.illinoisamwater.com).**



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