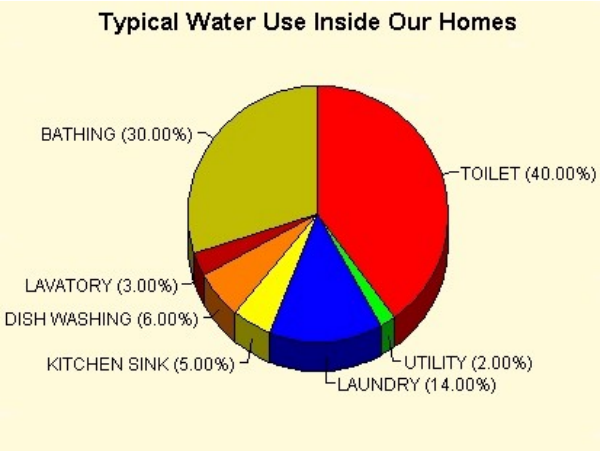
TIPS TO SAVE WATER IN YOUR HOME:

The average household in Utah uses about 650 gallons of water per day.
About half of that water is used in the home. We're fortunate to have good quality water in Utah, but drought periods remind us that water is not limitless. We have many opportunities to save water throughout the house. Most of these are as simple as fixing a leak or making a small change in our habits. In addition to saving water, some of these tips will also help save energy and save you money.



http://www.water.utah.gov/brochures/uws_broc.htm

SOURCES:

American Water Works Association Water Wiser Water Efficiency Clearinghouse
http://www.waterwiser.org/
City of Albuquerque Water Conservation Office
http://www.cabq.gov/waterconservation/indoor.html
USGS Domestic Water Use
http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/tables/dldo.html

For more information on how you can save water in your home:

Contact USU Extension's water quality program (435-797-2580) or visit our web page:

www.extension.usu.edu/waterquality

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WATER QUALITY EXTENSION

Water Conservation in the Home

In addition to saving water, you can learn tips to help save energy and money!

Water is Life: Quality Matters

TO SAVE WATER IN YOUR BATHROOM:

Check your toilet for leaks.

- Take off the toilet tank cover and add 10 drops of food coloring to the water in the tank
- Wait to see if the dye goes into the bowl (approximately 30 minutes).
- Any color in the bowl indicates a leak, which should be fixed immediately.
- *A leaking toilet can waste 15 gallons of water a day.*

Check the water level in the toilet tank.

- The fill line in the tank should be about an half inch below the overflow tube.
- *Water spilling over this line can waste hundreds of gallons each day.*

Fill a 2 liter bottle and place it in the toilet tank.

- This will reduce the amount of water used each time you flush your toilet.
- *This saves about half a gallon per flush on any toilet.*

Turn off the water when brushing your teeth.

- Wet your brush then turn off the water while brushing.
- *This can save 10 gallons of water each time you brush.*

Install water saving shower heads and faucets.

- Water saving shower heads use 2.5 gallons per minute or less. You'll also save in energy costs by using less hot water! These shower heads are available at most hardware stores and are relatively inexpensive and easy to install .
- *Save 25 to 50 gallons of water during a 10 minute shower.*

TO SAVE WATER IN YOUR KITCHEN:

Fill the dishwasher all the way.

- You use the same amount of water for a full dishwasher as a half full dishwasher.
- *A standard dishwasher uses 15 gallons per cycle.*

Use your dishwasher's water saver cycle. If buying a new dishwasher, choose one with water conserving features.

- Many dishwashers have shorter cycles that get your dishes clean but use less water and les energy.
- *These will save up to 30% of your water use.*

Use a dishpan or a stopper in your sink.

- Dishwashing by hand or rinsing with the tap running can use up to 30 gallons.
- *Using a dishpan instead of running the water can save 25 gallons.*

Keep a pitcher of drinking water in your refrigerator.

- This will save water you might otherwise waste when you let the faucet run until the water is cool.

TO SAVE WATER IN YOUR LAUNDRY ROOM:

Select the proper level for each load of laundry.

- *A full cycle at the top level can use up to 40 gallons per wash.*

If buying a new washing machine consider high-efficiency.

- Consider a front loading machine or a high-efficiency washer.
- *These machines use about 25 gallons per wash, and are big energy savers.*

TO SAVE WATER AROUND THE HOME:

Clean your sidewalks and patios with a broom instead of a hose.

- You'll not only save water, but reduce pollutants that run off into our streams.

Clean your car at a commercial car wash that recycles its water.

- If you do clean your car at home, wash the car over your lawn instead of the driveway. This not only re-uses the water, but also prevents dirty and soapy water from running off into the storm drains and into our streams.

Reuse your fish tank water.

- Water the plants with your old fish tank water. Your plants will love it!