



Valuing Water: Save Water, Save Our Planet

Water is the source of life, and valuing it starts with each of us. To celebrate World Water Day, take time to consider how the water flowing in our rivers and lakes connects to your life: your home, work, well-being, cultural and recreational practices, and local environment. Then take action to help protect this vital resource.

Read on for ways to take action and save our water supplies. Choose one thing today.

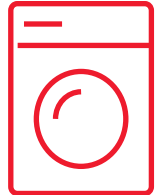
In the bathroom:

- Take a five-minute shower.
- Fix leaky toilets. To check, add a few drops of food coloring to the tank. Wait 25 minutes. If color spreads to the bowl, there's a leak. Cleaning or replacing the flapper often fixes the issue.
- Install a low-flush toilet and low-flow showerhead.



In the laundry room:

- Save up the dirty clothes. Washing a full load of clothes uses less water and energy.
- Did you know 90% of the energy used by the washing machine during laundry goes toward heating water? Wash clothes in [cold water](#) and decrease your carbon footprint.



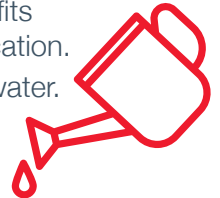
In the kitchen:

- Run the dishwasher only when full.
- Don't throw away edible food – reduce food waste. Get handy advice from [Love Food Hate Waste](#).
- For unavoidable food waste, consider composting. Food scraps that enter the water system through in-sink disposals may need more wastewater treatment, which can be energy- and water-intensive.



Outside your home:

- Choose your landscaping wisely. Look for local species of trees and plants that are both drought- and pest-resistant. Try the i-Tree Landscape tool at [itreetools.org](#) to explore the benefits of planting trees in your selected location.
- Use a local car wash that recycles water.



At work:

- Understand how your role touches water – directly or indirectly – from supply chain to manufacturing assets to the products made.
- Then challenge yourself to improve one element of that relationship. Dow's Nature team is here to help you work on those efforts.



In your community:

- Re-connect with your local watershed. Know which water body is the source of water for your community and understand what could be done to improve that watershed.
- Look to engage with your local community in efforts and projects to improve water quality, availability or accessibility.

Facts on Water Usage

Did you know ...

- Less than 2% of the Earth's water supply is freshwater
- About 6,800 gallons of water are required to grow a day's food for a family of four
- A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year

Sources:

https://www.think2onow.com/water_conservation_facts.php
<https://www.americanrivers.org/threats-solutions/clean-water/>

<http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/pubs/fixleak.html>

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