

Water – A Precious Resource



Water is the lifeblood of our planet. We rely on it for:

Health

Food

Manufacturing

Energy

Agriculture

Transportation

And More!



Water has a tremendous environmental value:

Allows plants, mangroves & peatlands to filter water

Regulates the planet's temperature

Purifies the air

Stores carbon

Reduces soil erosion

Nurtures biodiversity

Capable of dissolving more substances than any other liquid

We too often take water for granted.

We waste it, pollute it and ignore it's destructive power.



We need to value water for its full range of benefits, not only for us but for those who do not have a voice:

Plants

Animals

Future generations

It is a fundamental question of sustainability.





Why we need to conserve water

Only 3% of earth's water is fresh water, the remainder is salt water.

Of that, only 0.5% is available for drinking, the remaining 2.5% is too polluted, locked in ice caps & glaciers or too expensive to extract.

Conservation minimizes the effects of droughts and water shortages.

Reducing usage decreases energy required to process and deliver water to users.

Provides more water for essential services that provide health, firefighting and safety, sustaining of human and animal life and sustaining the environment.

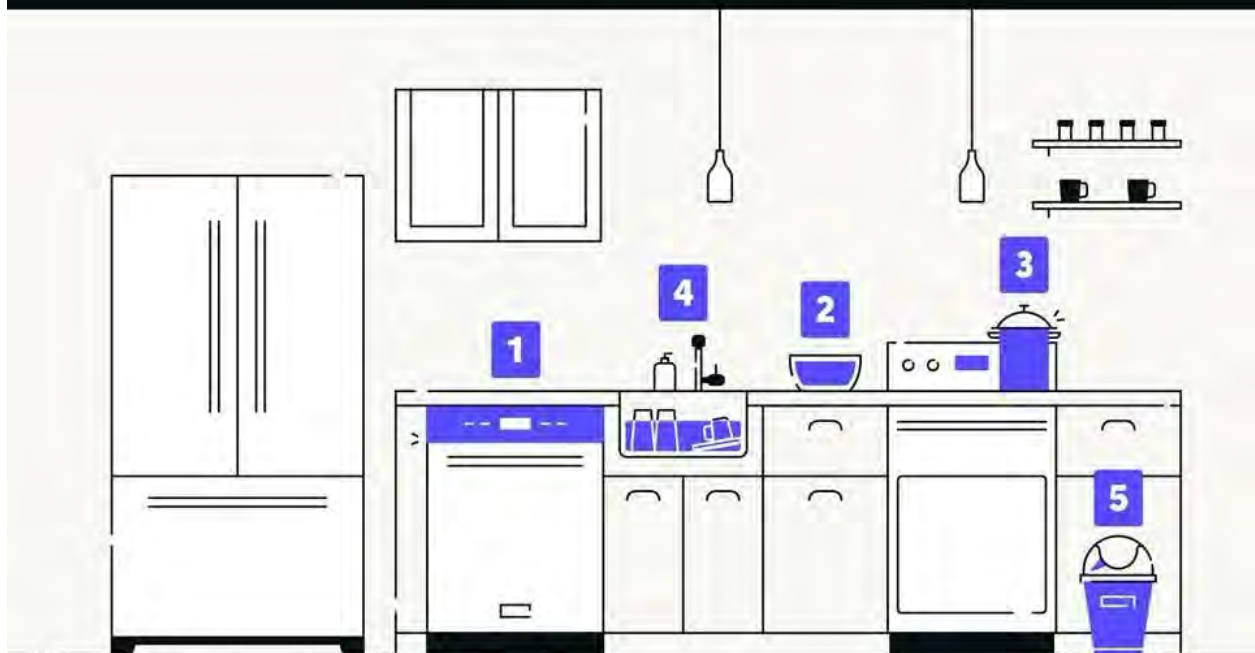
Ways we can conserve water:

Outdoors

1 Add mulch to your lawn ⦿ Retains 80% of water	2 Plant drought-resistant plants ⦿ Saves 110 gallons/week
3 Collect rainwater in barrel ⦿ Saves 21 gallons/week	4 Sweep driveways ⦿ Saves 1,050 gallons/week
5 Maintain your irrigation system ⦿ Saves 146 gallons/week	

Ways we can save water:

Kitchen



1 Run full dishwasher loads
⦿ Saves 110 gallons/week

2 Reuse cooking water
⦿ Saves 105 gallons/week

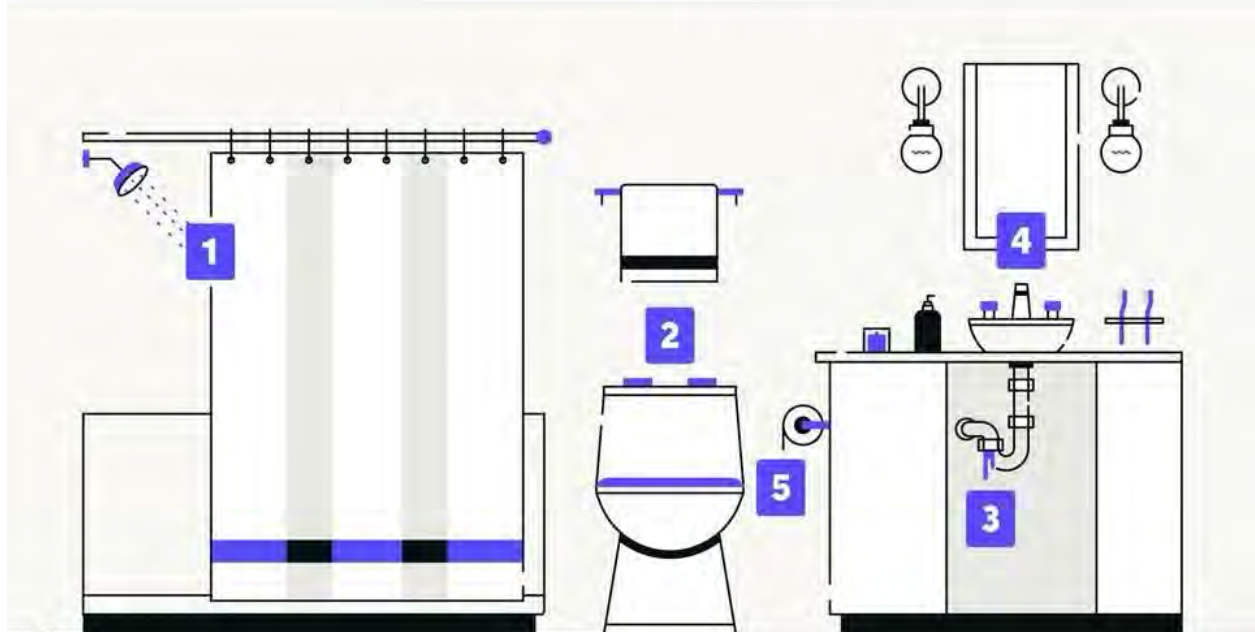
3 Steam vegetables
⦿ Saves 42 gallons/week

4 Soak pots and pans overnight
⦿ Saves 147 gallons/week

5 Compost to reduce disposal use
⦿ Saves 21 gallons/week

Ways to save water:

Bathroom



1 Replace baths with showers

⦿ Saves 315 gallons/week

2 Only flush when necessary

⦿ Saves 63 gallons/week

3 Check pipes for leaks

⦿ Saves 105 gallons/week

4 Turn off the sink as you brush

⦿ Saves 70 gallons/week

5 Install a high-efficiency toilet

⦿ Saves 490 gallons/week

There are many more ways to conserve water here on our island and an extensive amount of information is available. It will be more and more important to conserve as our community continues to grow and stress water availability.

Take the time to learn and contribute to the solution.

