

The image is a cover for 'Water Saving Playing Cards'. It features a central white rectangular frame on a blue background. Inside the frame, the text 'WATER SAVING PLAYING CARDS' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Above the text is a circular icon showing a water tap with two glasses being filled. Below the text is another circular icon showing a water tap with three glasses being filled. The background is decorated with various white line-art icons related to plumbing and water conservation, including faucets, hoses, a showerhead, a plunger, a toilet, a washing machine, a dryer, a water filter, and a water meter. The entire design is enclosed in a dashed white border.

**WATER  
SAVING  
PLAYING  
CARDS**

K



**KING OF KITCHENS**  
Defrosts in the Fridge Overnight



K

Q



QUEEN OF DIAMONDS  
Drinks Tap Water When Possible



Q

J



**JACK OF KITCHENS**  
Keeps a Water Pitcher in the Fridge



10



## Choose the Tap

When possible, drink water from the tap instead of bottled water. It takes about 1.5 gallons of water to manufacture a single plastic bottle.

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## Plug It

When handwashing the dishes, plug the sink or use a tub of water so you don't need to let the faucet run.



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## Reuse

Leftover water from cooking foods like pasta can be saved to water your plants. Make sure to let it cool down first!



8

7



## Think Ahead

Defrost frozen food items in the fridge overnight instead of running them under hot water.



L

6



## Fill It Up

Make sure to run the dishwasher only when it's full, and try not to rinse dishes before putting them in the dishwasher—just scrape them!



9

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## **Keep a Pitcher in the Fridge**

Instead of running  
the tap, keep a  
pitcher of drinking  
water in the  
refrigerator.



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4



## **Don't Be Excessive**

Use the proper  
pan size and  
amount of water  
when cooking.  
This will save water  
and keep more  
nutrients in  
your food.



3



## Pick Energy Star

Water-efficient dishwashers use less than 5.5 gallons of water per load. Replacing an old, inefficient dishwasher can save up to 1,000 gallons per year.



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2



## Scrub-a-Dub

Wash vegetables and fruits in a bowl or tub of water and scrub them with a vegetable brush instead of letting the faucet run.



2

A

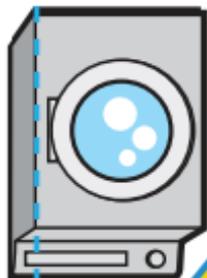


V

K



**KING OF LAUNDRY**  
Uses a High-Efficiency Machine



K



QUEEN OF LAUNDRY

Washes Full Loads

J  
♣



JACK OF LAUNDRY

Checks for Leaks Often

♣  
J

10



## Check for Leaks

Check your washer for leaks and drips often. Pay attention to the hose connections and other vulnerable spots.



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## **Wear It Twice**

It's okay to wear your clothes more than once. The best way to conserve water in the laundry room is to not do laundry!

6



8  
♣



## Skip the Extra Rinse

◆◆◆  
If you are using the correct amount of detergent for the selected load size and cycle, you don't need a second rinse.

♣  
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7



## Choose a Front-Loader

Front-loading  
washing machines  
use two-thirds less  
water than  
top-loaders,  
reducing water and  
heating costs.



L

6



## Keep It on Cold

Avoid using hot water whenever possible. Hot water sets in stains and uses more energy.

Use cold-water wash cycles when appropriate.



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## Consider a Greywater System

A greywater system captures used water from the washing machine, sink, and shower, then recycles it back into a home's nonpotable systems for reuse.



5

4



## Use Efficient Appliances

High-efficiency washing machines can help to reduce your monthly water bills. They use between 35 and 50 percent less water!



4

3



## Air Dry

If you can, use a laundry line to air dry clothes instead of using the clothes dryer. Using less electricity saves water too!

3

2



## Wash Full Loads

Wash full loads of laundry, and be sure to select the appropriate water level or load size option on the washing machine and dryer.



2

A



K



**KING OF OUTDOORS**  
Waters Wisely



K

Q



QUEEN OF OUTDOORS

Chooses Drought-Tolerant Plants



Q

J  
♥



JACK OF OUTDOORS

Uses a Bucket to Wash the Car

♥  
J

10



## Keep Soil Healthy

Soil health can influence water retention and drainage. Healthy soil aids in water storage, decreases evaporation, and helps root growth.



10

9



## Cover It Up

— ◆ ◆ ◆ —

If you have a pool,  
use a pool cover to  
reduce evaporation  
and heat loss.  
Check for and  
repair leaks.



6

8



## More Mulch

Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation from the soil.

Mulch also keeps the soil cooler.



8

7



## **Plant the Right Stuff**

SAMPLE

Plant according to  
your area's climate.  
Every time you water,  
this can save  
between 30 and 60  
gallons per 1,000  
square feet.



L

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## Use a Broom

It's best to use a broom rather than a hose to clean driveways, sidewalks, and patios.



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## Shut Off the Hose

Make sure your hose has a shutoff nozzle. Never leave a running hose unattended and check it often for leaks. When washing your car, bike, or boat use a bucket and sponge instead.



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## Be Sprinkler Smart

Make sure your  
sprinkler is watering  
the plants only—not  
the street, house,  
or sidewalk!



3



## **Don't Cut It Too Short**

—◆◆◆—  
Raise the mower blade to its highest level. Longer grass holds in more moisture and absorbs more sunlight.



3

2



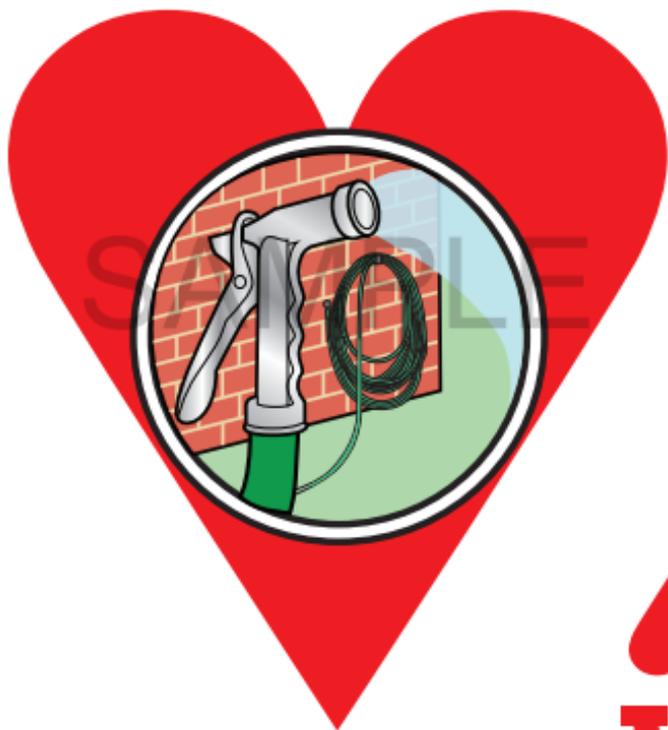
## Water Wisely

To avoid excess evaporation, it's best to water outdoor plants in the early morning or evening when the sun isn't out and the temperature is lower.



2

A



V

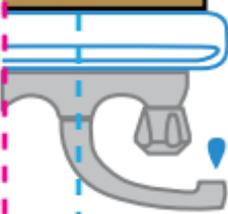
K



**KING OF BATHROOMS**  
Fixes Leaky Faucets and Toilets



K



Q ♠



**QUEEN OF BATHROOMS**  
**Installs Low-Flow Showerheads**



♥ Q

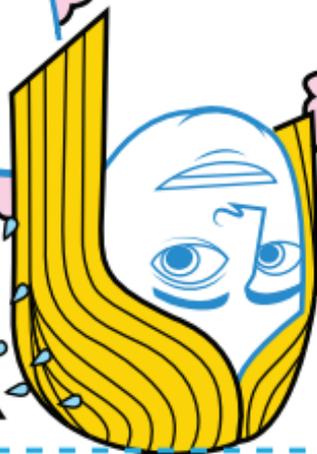
J



WITH A  
SHOWER  
TIMER!



JACK OF BATHROOMS  
Takes Short Showers



WITH A  
SHOWER  
TIMER!



J

10



## Rinse Your Razor

Use a cup or basin of water when shaving to rinse your razor. Don't let the water run!



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9



## Have a Dual

Consider installing a high-efficiency toilet or a dual-flush toilet.

Dual-flush toilets have two flush options—a half flush for liquid waste and a full flush for solid waste.



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8



## Use Less

Faucet aerators are inexpensive and simple to install. Plus, they reduce water consumption without reducing pressure.



8

7



**Don't Be a  
Foolish Flusher**

Flushing trash down  
the toilet uses  
unnecessary water.  
Use the trash bin  
instead.



L

6



## Look for Leaks

Check the toilet and faucets for leaks at least once a year. Repairing leaks is one of the easiest, most effective ways to save water at home.



9

5



## Turn Off the Tap

Don't let the water run while you lather your hands with soap or brush your teeth. Turn it on only to rinse.



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## Go Low-Flow

Install low-flow showerheads.  
Going low-flow can save up to 15 gallons of water during a ten-minute shower!



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## Make It Quick

Taking short showers saves water and energy too. Aim for five minutes or less. To save even more, you can turn off the water while lathering up and turn it back on to rinse.



3

2



## Showers Are Best

It takes about 70 gallons of water to fill an average bathtub. Taking a shower uses significantly less water and is the smarter way to bathe.



2

**A**



**V**

**J  
O  
K  
E  
R**

Q: What kind of pitcher throws no balls, no strikes, and saves you money?



A: A pitcher of water.

**J  
O  
K  
E  
R**

**J  
O  
K  
E  
R**

Q: What runs all day, but never gets tired  
(and costs you money)?



A: A leaky faucet.

**J  
O  
K  
E  
R**

**There's not much you can do about the price of water, but there are a lot of ways to cut the cost of your water bill. Most families can save by taking simple steps to reduce the amount of water they use every day.**



**For more information about  
saving water in your home,  
check out these sources:**

**Water Sense,  
U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency**  
[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)

**U.S. Geological Survey**  
[www.usgs.gov/water](http://www.usgs.gov/water)

**U.S. Department of  
Agriculture, Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**  
[www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)

**On these cards, you'll find water-saving suggestions to reduce your water bill, including ways to save in the bathroom, kitchen, laundry room, and outdoors. Follow these tips and you could see real savings each month.**



**For more information about the  
The Education & Outreach Company:  
[www.educationandoutreach.com](http://www.educationandoutreach.com)**

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