

Easy Ways to Save Water

Although Cecil County is generally blessed with bountiful rainfall, it has also known severe drought periods that have had a serious impact on water supplies, both from private wells and public water systems. As the population in our county and region grows, more people vie for the same sources of water, and water conservation is evermore critical. By adopting a few simple water-saving habits, you can help extend precious water supplies and alleviate excessive burdens on septic systems and public sewer systems.



To conserve water, repair all leaks and drips around the house. A single running toilet can waste 200 gallons of water per day. Make sure there are no dripping faucets, running toilets, leaking pipes, or other unnecessary water use. Turn off the faucet while you brush your teeth, shave, lather up, etc. Installing low-flow fixtures on showerheads, sinks, and toilets will also minimize water use.



Be savvy about lawn and garden care. Adding organic matter to the soil increases water absorption, and mulching bare areas conserves moisture. Water deeply, thoroughly, and infrequently—early morning is the best time to water. Installation of drip irrigation and/or timers also reduces water use. Use nozzles on outside hoses, and wash cars with a bucket of water, using the hose only to rinse off. When washing dishes or doing laundry, maximize your water usage by running only full loads. Make your next washing machine a front loading model (they require less water).

Where To Get Help for water conservation information

- Maryland Cooperative Extension; <http://extension.umd.edu/topics/water>
- Conserve Water; http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Documents/tip5.pdf
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Water Conservation; 410-398-4411 ext. 3; http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/features/?cid=nrcs143_023539
- Water Conservation Tips; <http://www.monolake.org/about/waterconservation>
- MDE Water Conservation; <http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/permits/Watermanagementpermits/Pages/waterpermits.aspx>
- Listed Local Water Restrictions in Times of Drought; <http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/DroughtInformation/pages/index.aspx>