

MAJOR APPLIANCES

Facts

- Clothes washers can use as much as 30-35 gallons of water per cycle, dishwashers as much as 25 gallons per cycle.
- A full dishwasher is more water efficient than washing the same load by hand.
- Energy efficient appliances are usually water efficient too.

Dishwashers

- Only run your dishwasher when it is full to make the best use of water, energy and detergent.
- Cut down on the amount of rinsing you do before loading the dishwasher. Most modern dishwashers do an excellent job of cleaning dishes, pots and pans all by themselves.
- When purchasing a new appliance, look for one offering several different cycles. This will allow you to select more energy and water efficient cycles when heavy duty cleaning is not required.

Clothes Washers

- Wait till you have a full load of laundry before running the machine to save both water and energy. If you can't wait for a full load, use the right water level to match the size of the load.
- When in the market for a new machine, consider a high efficiency model that will use an average of 30% less water and 40-50% less energy.

Other

- Insulate your hot water pipes and your electric water heater. Insulation will reduce the amount of time it takes for hot water to reach the tap, saving water and energy.
- If in the market for a new water softener, consider one with a "hardness sensor" that will automatically trigger regeneration as needed. This type of softener will make the most efficient use of both water and salt.



Note: This information was obtained from www.waterwiser.org, which is a program of the American Water Works Association operated in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.