SAVE WATER, SAVE MONEY

A message from Liberty Mutual Insurance

Whether you live in a desert or next to a lake, there are plenty of good reasons to conserve water. You can save money, and you can help save the world. Here are some ideas for wringing the most use out of your family's water supply.

Seek the Leaks
Did you know that there is a national Fix-A-Leak Week each March? You don't have to wait until then, of course. Finding and taking care of easily fixed leaks can save homeowners about 10% a year on their water bill. According to epa.gov, the average household wastes 10,000 gallons of water a year due to leaks alone (that's enough to wash 270 loads of laundry).

Common leak locations include dripping faucets, toilet flappers and showerheads. To see if you have leaks, check your water meter before and after a 2-hour window while all your water is shut off. If the meter does not read the same, chances are you have a leak.

Be Mindful of the Water You Use
Truth is, unless we're in a drought many of us don't really think about our water use. The good news is that it's easy to save a lot of water with just a little effort. Here are a few ideas:

- Don't pre-wash dishes in the sink if you have a dishwasher.
- While running water is heating up, collect it to water plants.
- Look for the WaterSense® label on toilets and showerheads.
- Teach your children to turn off faucets completely.

Water Lawns and Plants Efficiently
Saving water can actually help save your plants as well. Surprisingly, many plant and lawn problems aren't due to under-watering, but watering too much. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, irrigating less often and applying more water per irrigation results in deeper-rooted plants and a healthier turf. They also recommend that you avoid watering on windy days and at midday, when the evaporation level is the highest. Finally, letting your lawn go dormant allows grass to slow its growth and harden for winter.

Better living begins with making smarter choices. Wherever you call home, Liberty Mutual Insurance can provide superior coverage for the way you live.

To learn more about Liberty Mutual Auto and Home Insurance or to get a free, no-obligation quote, call 800-809-9778 or visit libertymutual.com/nar

SOURCES:

http://www.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/fixleak.html

http://www.usda.gov/documents/7-3-09_Tips_for_Watering_your_Lawn_and_Garden.pdf