

### **Water Conservation Tips**

Metro Atlantans can take many steps both inside and outside the home to conserve water. These tips will also help to save money.

#### Outside the home:

- Only water lawns and plants if they need it. More plants die in Georgia from overwatering than underwatering. One inch of rain or water every 7-10 days is all your plants need.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk or street.
- Install a rain sensor so your system won't run when it's raining.
- Landscape with native plants or plants well adapted to our region.
- Water the base of the plant instead of leaves. This saves water and reduces disease.
- Group plants with the same watering needs together.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway, sidewalk and deck.

#### Inside the home:

- Reduce your shower by two minutes and you can save five gallons of water per shower.
- Turn off the water while you shave or brush your teeth and you can save at least 100 gallons a week.
- Check your toilet for leaks. Put food color in your toilet tank and wait 10 minutes. If it seeps into your toilet bowl, you have a leak.
- Scrape your dishes instead of rinsing before placing in the dishwasher, and you can save six gallons a day.
- Limit dishwashing to FULL loads, and you can save at least two gallons a load.
- Use the refrigerator to thaw frozen food.
- Fix leaky faucets as soon as you notice them. A leak of 60 drips a minute wastes 192 gallons a month.
- Do only FULL loads of laundry. Cutting back one load of laundry can save up to 45 gallons per load.

Source: Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District