

sustainability tips



Droughts are a part of life in California that seem to come back around every decade or so, and the current drought has hit California with a vengeance. In fact, Gov. Jerry Brown called a drought emergency and asked California residents to cut their water use by 20 percent.

What you can do to save your 20 percent:

- Take a 5-minute shower instead of a 10-minute shower. You will save 12.5 gallons with a low-flow shower head, and 25 gallons with a standard 5-gallon-per-minute shower head.
- Turn the faucet off while brushing teeth or shaving to save about 10 gallons a day.
- Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios instead of a hose to save 8-18 gallons a minute.
- Fix the worn washers in a faucet with a slow steady drip to save 350 gallons per month, and 2,000 gallons a month if the leak is a small stream. A new flapper in a leaking toilet can save 7,000 gallons a month. To test for leaks, put food coloring in the tank. Don't flush. Ten minutes later if you see color in the bowl, you have a leak.
- Install a water-efficient clothes washer to save up to 16 gallons a load. A water-efficient dishwasher saves up to 8 gallons a load.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while scraping them clean.
- Replace a pre-1990 toilet, which can use 5 gallons per flush, with a newer high-efficiency model to save 38 gallons a day per toilet. Some water districts offer rebates of between \$50 and \$250 per toilet.
- If every home in California installed a WaterSense labeled bathroom faucet, it would help save seven billion gallons of water annually.
- Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants reduces evaporation and keeps the soil cool, saving over 20 gallons each time you water.

To learn more about rebates, tips and free water audits, see:

State Department of Water Resources: <http://saveourH2O.org>

California Public Utilities Water Conservation: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/Water>

California Department of Water Resources: <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency>

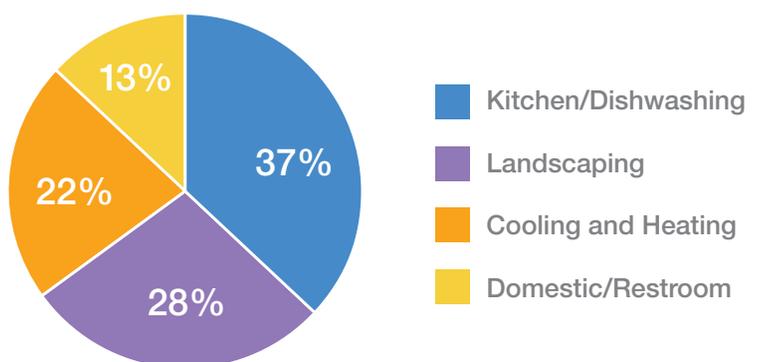
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power: <https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp>

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission: www.sfwater.org

San Diego Public Utilities: <https://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation>

Did You Know?

Commercial and institutional real estate consume 17 percent of all public water supplies in the United States. On the right, is the average office building's breakdown in water use between kitchen, landscaping, cooling/heating and restrooms.



In our effort to promote sustainability in our community, the property management staff will periodically share sustainability tips with you. If you have any ideas you would like to share, please submit them at sustainability@hines.com.

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