



What About Saving Water Outside?

Fix leaking faucets as soon as possible. A dripping faucet can waste thousands of gallons of water each year.

Plant less grass - shrubs and ground covers require less water and maintenance, and provide year-round greenery. Choose shrubs and trees adapted to our New England climate.

Water only when necessary. The most effective time is early in the morning - never on windy, rainy or very hot days. Use water with an efficient, slow soaking irrigation system. Don't water the driveway or sidewalk.

Doing It Together...

There is a strong commitment by your water utility, state regulators, and public health professionals to protect Connecticut's drinking water supplies and inform consumers about water quality issues.

Additional information and materials on water quality may be obtained by contacting the following sources:

CT Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Information: (860) 424-3000
Wetlands Management Section:
(860) 424-3019
CT DEP Natural Resources Center:
(860) 424-3540
Lawn and Garden Chemicals:
(860) 424-3369
Pesticides: (860) 424-3369
//dep.state.ct.us

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
North Farms Executive Park – Suite A
900 Northrop Road
Wallingford, CT 06492
(800) 805-8313
(203)269-7509
(203)787-0390

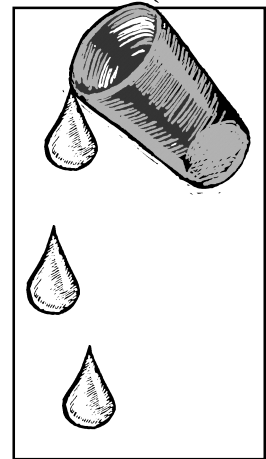
UConn Cooperative Extension System
Gardening: (203) 797-4376

Connecticut Agriculture Station
(203) 789-7272

Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov/owm/landtips.htm
Safe Drinking Water Act "hotline"
(800) 426-4791


Your Drinking Water:

Don't Take it for Granted...

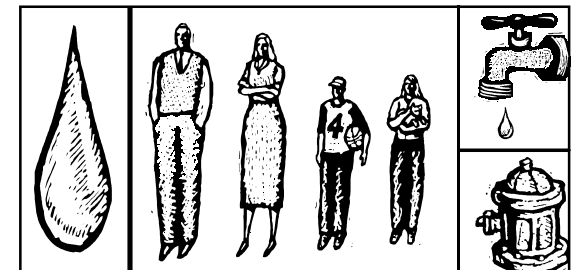


Connecticut is fortunate to have water supplies of high quality and sufficient quantity to meet the needs of consumers throughout the state. This is not strictly a matter of geography - it is the result of effective regulations by state and federal agencies, careful planning and operations by water utilities, and responsible use by consumers.

Your water utility has an obligation to provide sufficient quantities of high quality drinking water at a reasonable cost to consumers. As such, your utility takes a strong leadership role to ensure its water supplies are protected and its drinking water isn't wasted. We are calling on our consumers to do their part as well - to follow some simple guidelines to protect the quality of your drinking water and ensure that it is not wasted.



Provided by your utility professionals through the Connecticut Section of the American Water Works Association, dedicated to providing clean, safe drinking water.



How Does Connecticut Law Protect Drinking Water?

◆ Connecticut prohibits discharge of potential disease carrying wastewaters into public drinking water supply sources.

◆ Filtration and disinfection of all surface water supplies is mandatory.

◆ Land areas (watersheds) that drain into public water sources must be inspected annually for sources of pollution.

◆ State and local regulators govern land use and development on watershed lands.

◆ Strict regulations govern the sale and use of water company-owned land which is critical to the protection of public water supply resources.

◆ The Aquifer Protection Act requires regulation of land use in critical areas around public drinking water supply wells.

◆ Operator certification is required for water treatment facility personnel to ensure the effective operation of water treatment facilities.

You Can Help to Protect Connecticut's Public Water Supplies:

Don't dump!

Dispose of trash, waste motor oil, and household hazardous wastes properly. Check with your city or town hall or water company about proper disposal of these wastes.

Use pesticides and fertilizers wisely!

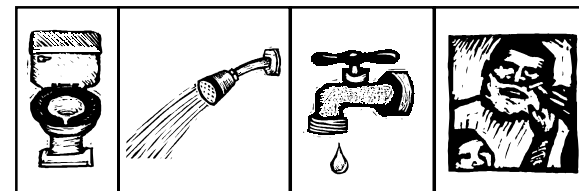
Follow the directions, apply only what's needed, and don't over use. When in doubt, consult an expert!

Report any polluting activities!

If you see illegal dumping, waste discharges, chemical spills, etc., please report them immediately to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (860-424-3338), the local police, health department or the water company.

Use and maintain your septic system properly!

Don't pour fats, grease, oils or harmful chemicals down the drain - they can interfere with the septic tank function and may cause groundwater pollution. Have the septic tank inspected and cleaned every two to three years.



Water Conservation: Making Sure There's Enough

Water is a limited resource so it's vital that we all work together to maintain it and use it wisely.

What You Can Do to Save Water Inside Your Home

Check for leaky toilets. (Put a drop of food coloring in the tank and let it sit. If the water in the bowl turns color, you have a leak).

Consider replacing your five-gallon per flush toilet with an efficient 1.6-gallon per flush unit. This will permanently cut your water consumption by 25%.

Fix leaking fixtures as soon as possible. A leaking faucet or toilet can dribble away thousands of gallons of water a year.

Run only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines. Rinse all handwashed dishes at once.

Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving.

Store a jug of ice water in the refrigerator for a cold drink.

