

A close-up photograph of a hand brushing teeth under a running faucet. The water is flowing from the faucet onto the toothbrush. The background is a white tiled wall.

Seven ways to reduce water usage at home

California homeowners need a workaround to cope with household water needs. Consider effective ways to improve your home and reduce your water usage:

1. **Install low-flow fixtures** — Slow your use of water by adding showerheads with a flow rate of no more than two and a half gallons per minute. Add aerators in all faucets to cut water use to one gallon per minute for noticeable water savings.
2. **Limit shower time** — Aiming for five minutes with the shower running — instead of 15 minutes for an average shower — along with a low-flow showerhead saves 25 gallons of water per shower.
3. **Brush wisely** — Turning the tap off when brushing your teeth or shaving conserves three gallons of water each time.
4. **Save when you flush** — Add a displacement device to your toilet tank or install a dual-flush or low-flow toilet to reduce water usage per flush.
5. **Wait for a full load** — Your washing machine and dishwasher are the most water-efficient when fully loaded.
6. **Plant smarter** — Replace water thirsty grass with native plants, succulents, sages and mallows. Water in the early morning hours and add mulch around plants so your landscaping retains water.
7. **Sweep, don't spray** — Sweep your walkways instead of hosing them down. It saves 80 gallons a year, and you get to spend time outside.

Looking for a home that is utility-bill friendly? Give me a call!