



BE WATER WISE

Water Wisdom Starts at Home



ILLINOIS
AMERICAN WATER

Our water supply is limited.

Lake Michigan provides an abundant source of water, but there is a state-imposed limit on how much water public and private companies can withdraw annually from Lake Michigan. Currently, over 201 public water supply systems serving more than 6.8 million northeastern Illinois residents rely upon Lake Michigan for their water supply and more are requesting access. In fact, approximately 34 percent of the total water usage in Illinois each year comes from Lake Michigan.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water Conservation Measures are in effect from May 15 through September 15

The following water conservation measures will be in effect from May 15 through September 15 in our northern Illinois operations. These measures are approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission for communities served by Illinois American Water that are supplied with Lake Michigan water or have a Lake Michigan water allocation.

whose street addresses end in an odd number may water only on an odd-numbered calendar day. Customers whose street addresses end in an even number may water only on an even-numbered calendar day.

In addition, please check your local ordinance as many municipalities also have restrictions on watering of lawns and other consumptive outside uses to promote conservation, such as limiting outdoor usage to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

In the event of extended drought and/or water shortages by water supply agencies, all outside uses may be banned. Enforcement of Illinois American Water’s conservation program will be the responsibility of individual municipalities by ordinance.

OUTDOOR WATERING SCHEDULE	
Odd-numbered addresses	Even-numbered addresses
WATER ON ODD-NUMBERED CALENDAR DAYS	WATER ON EVEN-NUMBERED CALENDAR DAYS

Watering of lawns and other outdoor consumptive uses may only be done on an “odd/even” watering basis. Customers

THE TRUE COST OF WATER

As an investor-owned and Illinois Commerce Commission-regulated public utility, Illinois American Water charges rates that reflect what is referred to as the “true cost of water.” This means that all costs required to provide service and support sustainability are reflected in the rate charged to our customers.

This concept is endorsed by the United States EPA, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, and the Metropolitan Planning Council. Typically, municipal system rates do not reflect the true cost of water as their rates, system maintenance and infrastructure improvements are subsidized by other sources of revenue.

An important connection of the “true cost of water” to water conservation is that consumers will tend to conserve water when they truly understand the value of water.

Visit us online at www.Illinoisamwater.com

Be Water Wise and Help Make a Difference.

INDOORS

- Check for leaks. Dripping faucets can waste as much as 2,700 gallons of water per year. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day.
- You can check your toilets for leaks by placing a drop of food coloring into your toilet's tank. Don't flush. Check the water bowl in 15 minutes. If the color flows into your toilet bowl, there is probably a leak.
- Run dishwashers and clothes washers only when full. Use the load-size selector.
- Replace your showerhead with a water-efficient model. Save about 500 gallons of water a year.
- Turn the water off while brushing your teeth. Rinse with a glass of water. Save up to four gallons of water each time.
- Install a water displacement device in your toilet's tank. (A plastic bag/bottle filled with water to reduce the amount of water and still provide enough to flush.)
- If you wash dishes by hand, turn the water off and on when rinsing rather than letting it run.
- Soak pans rather than scrubbing them while the water is running.
- Rinse your vegetables in a pan of cold water.

OUTDOORS

- Avoid over-watering your lawn. One inch of water per week in the summer will keep most grasses healthy.
- Water lawns early in the morning or in the evening during the hotter summer months. Avoid watering on windy days.
- Choose plants that are drought tolerant, heat tolerant, and tolerant of the minimum winter temperatures.
- Use a broom, and not a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- For plants that need more water, use a watering can or a hose on low pressure.
- Use lots of mulch around your shrubs and trees to retain moisture, reduce run-off, moderate soil temperatures and help with weed control.
- Avoid over-fertilizing! Get a soil kit to determine what nutrients your soil needs. If you apply fertilizer only in the spring and fall, your grass will be healthy, use less water and need mowing less frequently.
- If you have a swimming pool, get a cover. You'll cut the loss of water by evaporation by 90 percent.

To learn more about being **WATER WISE** and how you can make a difference, please visit our online learning center at www.illinoisamwater.com.

