



## Did you know?

The average household in Tay Township uses 1,000 litres of water per day. That is equivalent to 260 gallons, or 6 - 45 gallon drums.

Less than 3% of the water produced at a large municipal water treatment plant is used for drinking purposes yet all is treated for drinking.

One lawn sprinkler spraying 19 litres per minutes uses 50% more water in just 1 hour than a combination of 10 toilet flushes, two 5 minute showers, two dishwasher loads, and a full load of clothes!!!

About 75% of indoor home water use occurs in our bathrooms.

A five minute shower with a standard showerhead uses 100 litres of water. A five minute shower with a low-flow showerhead uses 35 litres of water. Having a shower instead of a bath uses 2/3rds less water.

Pools must be filled by a water supply contractor and not by the Township's supply. The average pool holds 25,000 gallons of water. There are 16 cups in a gallon, therefore it would take 400,000 cups of water to fill the average swimming pool and can severely impact our supply.



## Why do we need water restrictions?

Lawn and gardening watering more than doubles the demand for municipal water.

The water treatment facilities can only pump and treat so much water per second, as per provincial regulations.

Our water towers can only store so much water, approximately 1 day worth. The Port McNicoll water tower holds 700 m<sup>3</sup>, Waubaushene holds 450 m<sup>3</sup>, and Victoria Harbour holds 1400 m<sup>3</sup>.

Much like conserving energy to prevent brown and black outs for electricity, we need to conserve water during peak times to prevent running out of water!

No one wants the inconvenience of running out of water for drinking, cooking, bathing and other sanitary uses.

Running out of water for fire protection is an even bigger concern. If our storage tanks can't maintain an adequate supply of water for fire hose pressure, we can't fight fires.

## What can I do to keep my lawn and plants healthy?



Less water promotes deeper, stronger grass roots that can tolerate drought. You will only need as much water as it takes to fill the depth of a tuna can once a week in order to properly irrigate. Put a can on your lawn while watering to gauge when to turn it off.

Set your lawn mower to 2-3 inches in height for cutting during the peak summer season. This will help keep moisture in your lawn rather than evaporating.

Collect rainwater from your downspout in a barrel and use it on your gardens.

Try drip irrigation hoses and use them when permitted. Evaporation will be significantly reduced and you will not lose flower pedals and leaves to the spray of a sprinkler.

Use mulch on gardens to reduce evaporation.

Plant native drought tolerant species and plant in the spring and fall.

## How can I help protect our supply?



Keep a pitcher of water in the fridge instead of running the faucet until the water is cold.

Turn the water off while you are brushing your teeth.

Install a low-flow toilet that uses only 6 litres of water per flush instead of 18 litres.

Have a quick shower instead of a bath, install a low-flow shower head, you'll cut your water usage in two thirds.

Completely fill your dishwasher and washing machine before running them. An automatic dishwasher uses approximately half the water than hand washing dishes uses.

Using a bucket of water to clean your car instead of a hose saves about 300 litres of water.

Fix leaks inside and outside of the house. A tap leaking one drop of water per second wastes more than 25 litres of water a day and 9,000 litres per year! Most are easy to find and cheap to fix.