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Be Water Smart – Some Simple Steps to Conservation *Brought to you by the International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC) and Jewish National Fund (JNF)*

14 Sep 2004 - Did you know that a leaking faucet that leaks just one drop per second can waste over 2,000 gallons of water per year? Or that leaking toilets can waste 200 gallons a day? Or that an average shower uses 20-30 gallons of water?

Americans use an average of over 400 million gallons of water each day; however, much of that water is wasted due to carelessness.

The International Arid Land Consortium offers these simple water saving tips to save our most valuable and vital natural resource

Indoors

- Turn faucets off when you are not using them; for example, do not leave the water running when washing dishes by hand or brushing your teeth
- Make sure to repair any leaking faucets, pipes and toilets
- Defrost frozen food in the refrigerator or microwave instead of running hot water over it
- Dispose of toxic chemicals properly, do not pour them down the drain
- Install water saving fixtures such as ultra low consumption toilets, efficient faucets and shower heads
- Do not throw trash into the toilet, it will result in unnecessary and wasteful toilet flushing; instead dispose of trash in the proper containers

Outdoors

- Water your lawn early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation
- Do not over water your lawn
- Cover swimming pools to minimize the loss of water due to evaporation. Also install a more efficient water saving filter.
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean sidewalks or driveways
- Install efficient irrigation devices
- Plant native grasses on your lawn because they do not require as much water as conventional grasses
- Do not leave sprinklers or hoses on unattended; it can result in leaks and over watering