

Where is the most water used at home?

CRD Environmental Services



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If someone were to ask you where you consume the most water at home, your initial thoughts might gravitate toward the kitchen or the invigorating daily shower. Surprisingly, however, the real culprit might be the often-overlooked hero of our daily hygiene routine—the toilet.

When it comes to indoor water use, about 65% is in the bathroom with showers using the second-most water and the third-most energy in the house.

Despite residing on the picturesque and endlessly rainy west coast, the Sooke Lake Reservoir has a finite capacity that must last the entire year. The reservoir must endure not only the daily demands of a growing population but also the challenges posed by dry summer months when precipitation becomes a rarity.

By adopting water-wise habits, we not only defer the need for costly infrastructure but also ensure a sustained supply of potable water for an expanding population and a thriving ecosystem.

Consider these practical tips to be water-wise in the bathroom:

- 1- **Shower smart:** Embrace shorter showers and invest in low-flow showerheads to minimize water usage without compromising your cleansing routine.
- 2- **Turn off the tap:** Simple acts, such as turning off the tap while brushing your teeth or lathering soap when washing your hands or in the shower, can save substantial amounts of water over time.
- 3- **Choose high-efficiency fixtures:** When renovating or upgrading your bathroom, choose high-efficiency toilets, showerheads, and faucets. These fixtures are designed to use less water without compromising performance. Look for the WaterSense label which confirms the fixtures are tested for their efficiency.
- 4- **Fix leaky fixtures:** Household leaks make up to 14% of all indoor water use. A dripping faucet may seem inconsequential, but over time, it can contribute to significant water wastage. Be sure to address leaks to prevent unnecessary water loss.
- 5- **Flush with care:** Reevaluate your flushing habits and don't use your toilet as a trash can. when you flush things you shouldn't it makes your toilet and the sewer system work harder, and sometimes not at all.

Through mindful choices and small changes in our habits, we can collectively contribute to a more water-resilient future, safeguarding our resources for generations to come. To learn more ways to use your water wisely in the bathroom, visit www.crd.bc.ca/water

Residential Indoor Water Use

