



2021 Theme

#HowTo Save Water

Background Information and Messages

The 2021 Water Awareness Video Contest is challenging students to make a step-by-step tutorial that teaches viewers #HowTo Save Water. The topic is purposely broad so as to provide students with maximum flexibility to demonstrate water-saving tips with what they have on hand given challenges posed by the coronavirus emergency.

Here are some tips for using water efficiently that can be incorporated into videos:

Outdoors:

- Replace thirsty lawn with native, climate-appropriate plants and drip irrigation
- Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants to slow down evaporation
- Adjust sprinkler heads so that the water lands on the lawn or garden where it belongs and not on the sidewalk or street
- Water early in the morning or later at night to reduce evaporation
- Check your sprinkler timer monthly and adjust according to the weather
- Use a shut-off nozzle on your garden hose
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean your sidewalk and driveway
- Install a water-efficient drip irrigation system for your trees, shrubs and flowers
- Set mower blade to three inches
- Replace older sprinklers with high-efficiency rotary nozzles
- Install a Water-Sense labeled, "smart" sprinkler timer that adjusts watering based upon weather, soil type, sun exposure (for example, full sun or part shade) and plant type

Indoors:

- Take a power shower by installing a WaterSense showerhead, taking shorter showers and turning off the water while washing your hair
- Turn off the water when rinsing dishes, soaping hands, brushing teeth or shaving
- Check plumbing and appliances for leaks and fix them within 48 hours
- Replace older fixtures such as toilets, faucets and showerheads with high-efficiency, WaterSense-labeled fixtures. (These can be found at most home improvement stores.)
- Check your toilet for leaks by putting dye tablets or food coloring in the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, there's a leak that should be repaired
- Install a high-efficiency clothes washing machine
- Run the dishwasher only when full
- Don't leave water running while rinsing dishes
- Fill the bathtub halfway or less
- Wash only full loads of clothes

More water-saving tips are available at <https://www.scwa2.com/water-efficiency/tips-resources/>.

Sponsored by the Solano County Water Agency

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