

**MAINTAIN  
PLAN  
CHECK**

How about a home  
free of leaks?  
How about low water bills?  
How about saving our planet?

# HELLO FEBRUARY

**SHOWER  
YOUR HOME  
WITH LOVE**

Discover  
the basics and benefits  
of building a home that is  
efficient  
indoors and outdoors





# NSID NEWSLETTER



## Performing Routine maintenance

Maintaining your home is an important way to ensure your plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems save water and keep utility costs down.

Maintain water savings you will LOVE



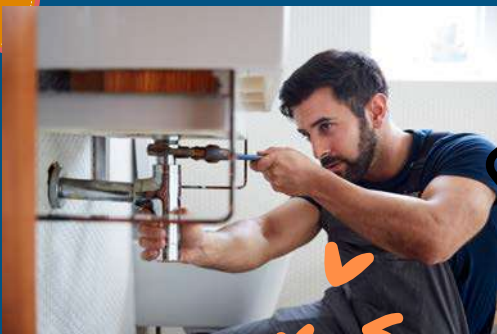
## Looking to add property value

Adding the WaterSense label—an independent certification for both water savings and performance can make a property more appealing in a competitive market where third-party certifications truly matter.



## Avoiding damage by fixing leaks

Contact North Springs Improvement District if you notice an unusual increase in your water bill. You may have a leak. It can cause serious damage to your home and can be costly



# Why WaterSense?

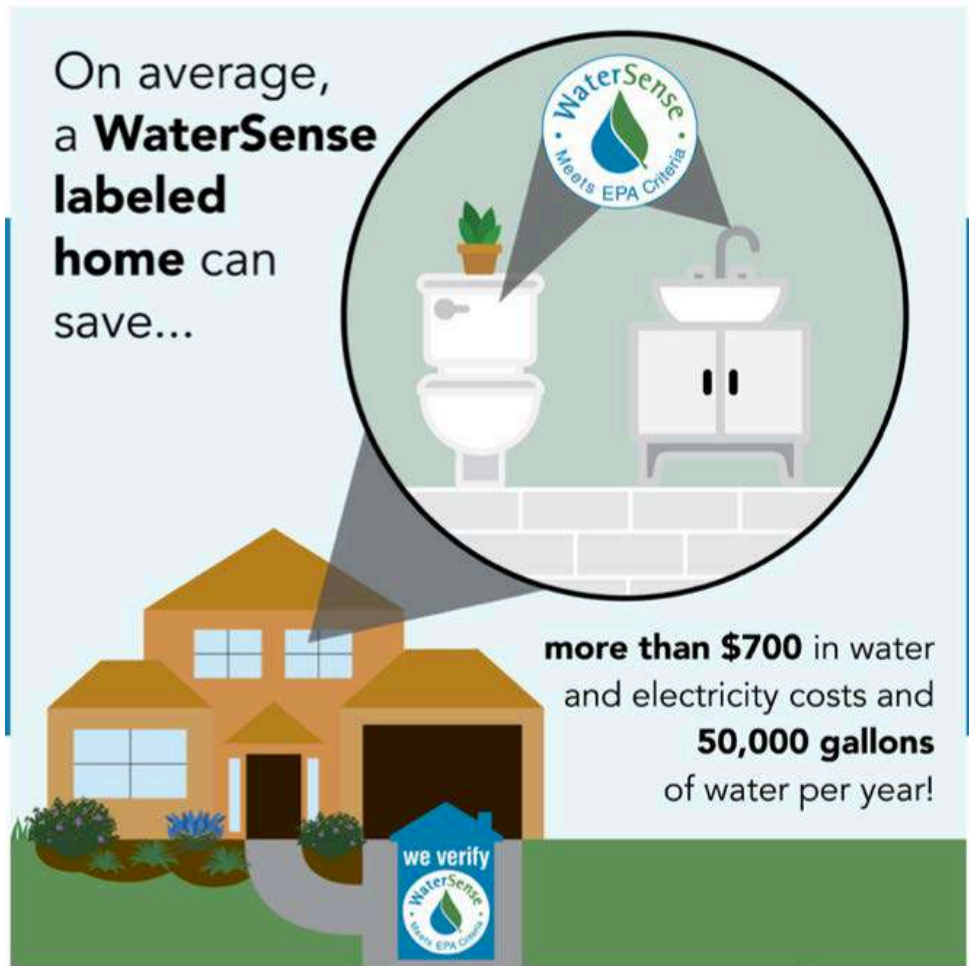
-Flexibility  
in meeting Efficiency

-Savings That  
Perform

-Free of Leaks

-Peace of Mind

On average, a **WaterSense** labeled home can save...



more than **\$700** in water and electricity costs and **50,000 gallons** of water per year!

we verify  
WaterSense  
Meets EPA Criteria

## Buyers Are Motivated to Look for Greener Options



of buyers are concerned about the **impact of their homes** on the environment.



of home buyers consider **water-efficient plumbing products** to be essential or desirable within a home.



of buyers would pay at least \$500 to **certify that their new home is water-efficient.**

**Add value to a HOME**



# WaterSense Labeled Homes Compared to Typical Homes



WaterSense Labeled Home



Typical Home

Water Used Indoors

36,700 GPY\*



52,400 GPY

Energy Used to Heat Water

2,050 kWh per year



2,950 kWh per year

Associated Utility Costs

\$750 per year



\$1,075 per year

A WaterSense Labeled Home **SAVES**

**15,700** GPY

**900** kWh per year

**\$325** \$\$\$ per year

*Figures assume an average family size of 3.23 occupants.*

*\*Gallons Per Year*



## SAVE WATER and...why not?... SAVE MONEY

### Peace of Mind

Hire qualified professionals to conduct independent inspections and ensure that your WaterSense labeled home meet the EPA's criteria, allowing your home to perform efficiently while conserving water.



## TRUST THE EXPERT

If you notice that your water bill is higher than usual, it's a good idea to find out why and tackle the issue promptly. Let's explore some typical reasons for a high water bill and discover how you can easily address them!

- Seasonal Changes and Water Consumption
- Household Guests
- Toilet, Faucets, or Showerhead Leaks
- Leaky Washing Machines or Dishwashers
- Outdoor And Underground Leaks
- Irrigation Systems
- Water Softeners
- New Water-Consuming Equipment

NSID recommends following these simple maintenance tips for your water-using fixtures, features, and systems to be more WaterSmarter.

By following daily, monthly, and annual checklists, you can help reduce your utility bills and conserve water for future generations. Families living in WaterSense-labeled homes can **save over 50,000 gallons of water** and more than **\$700 annually** on water and energy costs!





## Maintenance Checklist for a Water-Efficient Home

### ONCE A YEAR

- ✓ Check your home for leaks, both indoors and outdoors, and repair them promptly.
- ✓ Ensure your toilets are not continuously running. To check for leaks, add a few drops of food coloring to the tank and wait 10 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, you have a leak. Remember to flush afterward to avoid staining.
- ✓ Inspect showerheads and faucets for any scale buildup and clean them if necessary. Use new plumbing tape to ensure a tight seal.
- ✓ Add mulch as needed to landscaped areas in your yard.
- ✓ Check your irrigation system for any breaks or leaks. Look for signs of overwatering or underwatering, as well as areas where water is overspraying, and make any necessary repairs or adjustments.

# Maintenance Checklist for a Water-Efficient Home



## DAILY



Turn off faucets and hose bibbs unless you are actively using water.



Run only full loads of laundry and dishes and skip extra rinse cycles.

## MONTHLY



- ♥ Compare your water bill to the same month of the previous year, to identify leaks.
- ♥ Remove weeds from your landscaped areas to ensure more water is available for your plants.

- ♥ Allow your grass to grow two to three inches tall before mowing.
- ♥ If you don't have a WaterSense-labeled irrigation controller, adjust your irrigation system's schedule based on seasonal weather changes.
- ♥ Check the salt level of your water softener and break up any salt bridges.

## EVERY 5 YEARS



Hire an irrigation professional certified by a WaterSense labeled program to assess your irrigation system and provide recommendations to improve its water efficiency.



Replace old toilet flappers to ensure a good seal and avoid toilet leaks.

Did you know that  
common household leaks  
can waste up to  
**10,000 gallons**  
of water  
a year?



Take **5 minutes** over **5 days**  
to be leak free

1. **\*\*Keep an Eye on Your Water Use:\*\*** Review your utility bill. If you see an unexpected increase, don't hesitate to give NSID a call!

2. **\*\*Update Your Toilet Flapper:\*\*** If your toilet has been running, it might be time for a new flapper. Replacing it can help prevent leaks and save water.

3. **\*\*Embrace Water-Saving Fixtures:\*\*** Spruce up your faucets by swapping out old aerators for WaterSense labeled ones. They help you save water without sacrificing performance!

4. **\*\*Check for Leaks:\*\*** Take a little time to look under your sinks, at your bathtubs, and around your faucets for any drips or puddles. If you find anything, tightening the joints can work wonders!



*Replacing old, inefficient toilets with U.S. EPA WaterSense-labeled high-efficiency toilets using 1.28 gallons per flush or less.*



# Game



## Test Your WaterSense



1-What should you do if you hear or see a leaky faucet in your house?

- Ignore it. drips are no big deal.
- Do nothing. You cannot fix a drippy faucet
- Tell an adult.

2-Which of these wastes the MOST water in most homes?

- 1 Ignoring a leaky toilet
- 2 Running the tap while washing dishes
- 3 Using a garbage disposal
- 4 Taking long showers

3-When is the best time of day to water your lawn?

- Early morning or late evening
- In the afternoon
- All day

4-It's ok to flush some trash in the toilet like cottonball and tissue?

- 1 True
- 2 False



# CAN YOU HELP FINN & FLO?



## Word Search

Find the water-saving words listed below.

E	R	W	S	E	C	E	P	U	M	R	T	S	W	A
L	P	W	O	H	Z	X	J	C	Y	E	H	N	O	X
E	M	A	C	P	G	K	Y	H	C	O	E	L	U	N
I	P	E	C	K	A	E	L	U	W	D	W	H	T	Z
I	V	A	V	S	C	Y	A	E	R	L	Y	B	E	U
L	W	R	R	C	D	F	R	A	T	Q	C	W	L	M
B	N	T	A	C	O	N	G	S	K	A	A	T	I	O
U	S	H	F	F	S	Q	A	Y	X	T	P	X	O	O
V	S	B	R	U	S	H	K	L	E	G	V	H	T	R
V	S	R	A	W	H	P	E	R	F	A	V	S	I	H
R	E	H	S	A	W	H	S	I	D	S	N	C	A	T
E	E	X	C	V	P	Q	L	Q	W	B	I	S	O	A
W	J	Q	I	I	E	U	L	O	Q	X	U	E	C	B
Q	T	H	U	O	D	Q	U	V	H	S	X	B	P	K
E	B	M	U	N	X	N	R	S	X	B	F	U	R	C

bathroom  
earth  
shower  
water

brush  
faucet  
leak  
tap

dishwasher  
garden  
scrape  
toilet

**Bonus Word:** landscape

# Find the Differences

Circle 10 things that have changed between the top house and the bottom house.

Did you know that 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by water and only 1% is available for human use?



Most of the Earth's water is salty, mainly from the oceans, or it's permanently frozen. Unfortunately, that means we can't use it for drinking, washing, or even watering our plants!



# LET'S CHECK YOUR ANSWERS



## QUESTION #1

**Answer: C** Leaky faucets are big water wasters. If you see or hear a leaky faucet, tell your parents or an adult about it so they can get it fixed. If you don't, those drips and drops can waste up to 2,700 gallons of water in one year!



## QUESTION #2

**Answer: 1** Help your parents test your toilets for leaks. Place a drop of food coloring in the tank and if the color shows in the bowl before flushing, you have a leak.

## QUESTION #3

**Answer: A** Although it is fun to run through the sprinklers at the hottest time of day, your lawn should only be watered in the early morning or late evening when it's cooler. Watering the yard when it's really hot outside causes the water to evaporate before the plants have time to drink it.



## QUESTION #4

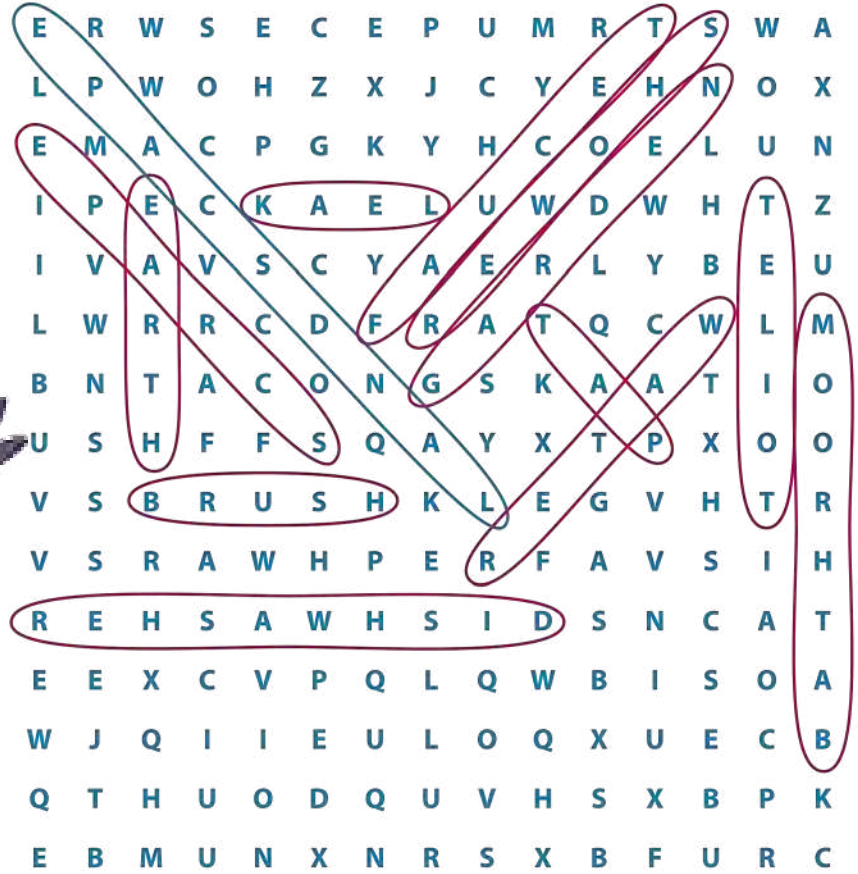
**Answer: 2** Flushing the toilet for silly reasons wastes a lot of water. Cutting out 1 flush per day saves enough water to wash 32 loads of laundry each year.



# Answer Key

Remember, water doesn't need to flow while you are busy brushing your teeth.

PLEASE, TURN IT OFF.

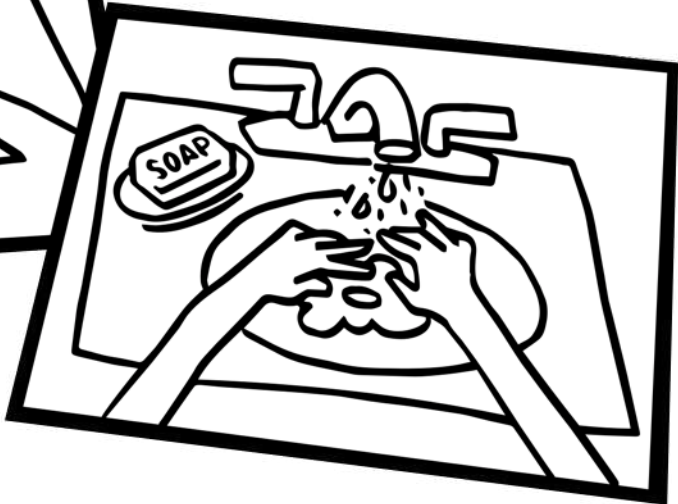
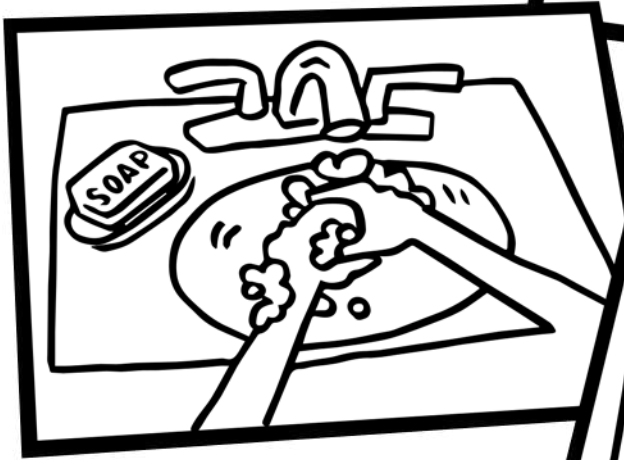
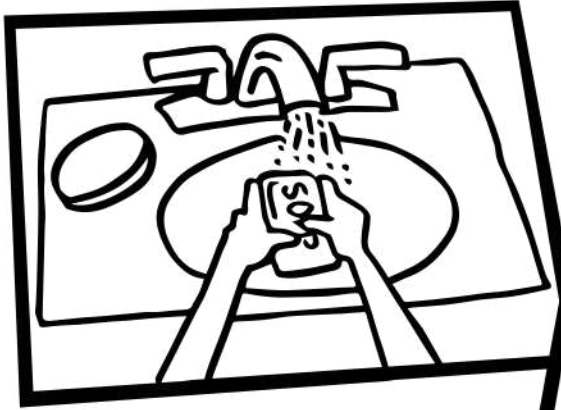


Don't use the toilet for trash!  
 Scrap the rinse, scrape instead!  
 Take a shower instead of a soak!  
 Loose the hose, reuse those drops!

SAVE WATER



t u r n o f f  
t h e t a p



Did you know that you can save a lot of water while keeping things clean? When you wash your hands for **20 seconds** or brush your teeth for two minutes, it's a great idea to turn off the faucet while you scrub. By doing this, you could save around **200 gallons of water** each month! It's a simple way to help the planet while taking care of yourself.