

North Springs Improvement District

PLEDGE TO SAVE WATER ALL YEAR

January 2026 Newsletter





A NEW YEAR'S COMMITMENT

to Water Conservation

Every day, clean, high-quality drinking water reaches your home through a reliable system that operates quietly behind the scenes. At North Springs Improvement District (NSID), we work year-round to provide safe and dependable drinking water, wastewater collection, and stormwater management to our community—including residents in Coral Springs and Parkland.

Our advanced nanofiltration and reverse osmosis treatment plant draws from the Biscayne and Floridan Aquifers, producing up to **10 million gallons per day** while meeting or exceeding all federal, state, and local standards. In recent years, we've distributed approximately **1.6 billion gallons** annually to serve around 40,000 commercial, residential, and multi-family customers. In 2025, NSID was honored with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's **2024 Plant Operations Excellence Award** for outstanding performance in water quality, innovative treatment processes, and operational excellence.

Even with this dependable infrastructure, our freshwater resources are finite. Only about **3%** of Earth's water is freshwater, and less than **1%** is readily accessible for human use—the rest is locked in ice, deep groundwater, or oceans. In South Florida, where landscape irrigation often accounts for a substantial portion of household water consumption, every resident plays a vital role in stewardship.

As we move forward in 2026, we invite you to join us in a simple but meaningful goal: This year, commit to learning more about your water use and adopting small, consistent ways to conserve it. These efforts help sustain long-term supplies, protect our environment (including the Everglades and local aquifers), and support the well-being of our community.

Let's begin 2026 informed and committed. Small, collective actions today ensure a sustainable future for our shared community tomorrow.



2024 Plant Operations Excellence Award



HOW WE USE WATER

Indoors and Outdoors

The average American household uses **more than 300 gallons** of water every single day (that's like filling a small hot tub daily!). In sunny South Florida, with our steamy summers and love for vibrant lawns, that number can skyrocket—especially outdoors. But here's the game-changer: knowing where the water actually disappears lets you target the biggest leaks (literal and figurative) and **save big—often 20% or more**, meaning thousands of gallons and hundreds of dollars back in your pocket each year.

Where does all that water go? Let's break it down:

Indoor use (~70% nationally, around **210+ gallons per day** for the average home):

- **Toilets** — the sneaky champion at **~24% of indoor use (~33 gallons daily)**. Often the largest single category.
- **Showers** — **~20% (~27 gallons daily** for typical use). That long, steamy morning rinse? It adds up fast in Florida humidity.
- **Faucets** — another **~20% (~27 gallons daily)**. —small streams become rivers.
- **Laundry, dishwashers, & other appliances** — solid chunks, but often overlooked (e.g., clothes washers **~17%** in some studies)
- **Leaks** — the silent thief! Households waste **180 gallons per week** (that's **9,400 gallons annually**—enough to run your sprinklers for weeks). Fixing them can **save ~10% on your bill**.

Outdoor Use (~30% nationally, but way higher here in South Florida):

- **Landscape irrigation & lawn care** — often **50% or more** of your total home water use in Coral Springs and Broward County, spiking during hot, dry spells.
- In many local homes (especially those with big, thirsty lawns): **60–70%** goes straight to watering!
- A typical irrigated yard here (~3,179 sq ft of grass/plants) can gulp **hundreds to 1,000+ gallons per session**—imagine that every few days under our year-round restrictions.





HOW WE USE WATER

Indoors and Outdoors

Your home might look different (maybe no huge lawn, or super-efficient setup), but these patterns scream opportunity. Ready to fight back? Start small for massive wins: Every home varies based on fixtures, habits, household size, and landscape, but these patterns highlight primary opportunities for reduction. Potential savings from targeted changes include:



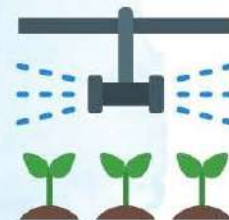
- **Fixing leaks** → Up to **9,400 gallons saved** annually (~10% on bills)

- **Installing WaterSense-labeled showerheads**
(≤2.0 gallons per minute) → **2,700+ gallons saved** per year



- **Upgrading toilets to WaterSense models**
(≤1.28 gallons per flush) → **13,000 gallons saved annually**

- **Adopting efficient outdoor practices** → Reduce household water use by **20% or more annually** (e.g., smart irrigation controllers, soil moisture sensors, or Florida-friendly landscaping with drought-tolerant plants), saving thousands of gallons and lowering costs.



In Broward County, year-round landscape irrigation restrictions apply to potable water sources: No watering is allowed between **10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**, and watering is limited to two days per week based on address parity (odd addresses: Wednesdays/Saturdays; even addresses: Thursdays/Sundays).

To get started: Review your water bill for seasonal spikes (especially irrigation periods), perform a simple leak check (e.g., toilet dye test), and implement one small change—such as fixing a leak or adjusting your watering schedule to meet local restrictions. These actions can lower your usage and costs while supporting conservation of the Everglades and local aquifers.

PRACTICAL WAYS

to Save Water All Year

Saving water does not require big changes. Simple habits can reduce waste and protect our shared supply.

INDOORS



- **Turn off** the tap while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- **Shorten** your showers when you can.
- Only run dishwashers and washing machines with **full loads**.
- Check your home for **leaks**. A running toilet or dripping faucet can waste **hundreds of gallons** over time.



OUTDOORS



- Water your lawn or garden **only when needed**.
- Water **early** morning or **late** evening to reduce evaporation.
- Set sprinklers for **twice-weekly** watering, with a **10-minute run time per zone**.
- Aim sprinklers at plants, not sidewalks or driveways.
- Use **low-water landscaping** (native plants, mulched areas).



SMART MONITORING



Track your monthly water usage on your NSID bill to catch issues early.

Compare the current month's gallons used to previous bills—watch for sudden spikes (e.g., **20–50% above** your normal average or the prior month's). These increases often signal a hidden leak (indoor, toilet, faucet, or underground) or an overactive irrigation schedule, especially in warmer months.

Early awareness prevents wasted water, surprise high bills, and potential property damage. Small vigilance helps protect our shared resources.



MAKE 2026 YOUR WATER-SMART YEAR!

Save Water All Year

We invite you to take a moment and **write down** one or two ways you plan to save water this year. You might decide to track your bill each month, shorten showers, adjust irrigation, or fix a long-standing leak. Posting your pledge somewhere **visible** helps keep the goal in mind.

STAY INVOLVED

- **Track** your water use each month.
- **Share** water-saving habits with family members.
- **Reach out to NSID** if you notice anything unusual in your water service or if you have questions about water use.
- **Look** for more conservation tips in future NSID newsletters.



WORKING TOGETHER

Complete Your First Challenge of the Year - Taking the Pledge! Take the NSID "I'm for WaterSmarter" pledge today at nsidfl.gov/water-smarter-pledge.

This quick step commits you to conserving our precious resource year-round through simple habits like fixing leaks and taking shorter showers—your first win sets the tone for real change!

Water is **essential** to our families, our community, and our **future**. When each of us uses water **wisely**, the entire district benefits. **Thank you** for committing to make 2026 a year of learning, awareness, and responsible use. Your choices truly make a difference!

Let's work together to make every drop count. Join the WaterSmarter Movement!

Here is an overview of this year's WaterSmarter monthly themes—but join us monthly in the NSID newsletter for more Finn's Helpful Hints and practical tips to make a real difference!

JANUARY

Pledge to Save Water All Year

Take the "I'm for WaterSmarter" pledge and use easy monthly ways to save water each month in 2026.

Finn's Tip: Start strong—review your NSID bill for usage patterns and set a personal goal!



"I'm for WaterSmarter" Pledge

Take the "I'm for WaterSmarter" pledge and join us in our commitment to conserving this precious resource all year long. Every action counts, and together, we will make a...

North Springs Improvement District





Save Water All Year



FEBRUARY



Care for Your Fixtures (and Wallet!)

Show your home some love with WaterSense's Maintenance Checklist—simple tips for fixtures, controllers, and systems to save water.

Finn's Tip: **Check faucets and toilets for drips; a quick fix prevents big waste!**

MARCH



Five Tips for Fix a Leak Week

Take 5 minutes over 5 days to check and fix leaks—stop wasteful and costly water leaks in their tracks!

Finn's Tip: **Try the toilet dye test—if color appears in the bowl, fix the flapper.**

#FixALeakWeek March 16-22 | #WorldWaterDay March 22

APRIL



Spring Into Water-Saving Action

Get your irrigation system ready for warmer weather—inspect, connect, direct, and select your way to water savings.

Finn's Tip: **Adjust sprinklers to avoid sidewalks and follow local restrictions.**

#EarthDay April 22 | #SprinklerSpruce-Up Month

MAY

Water-Smart Landscapes Are a No-Brainer

Choose drought-tolerant plant varieties for your yard that can withstand drier conditions and save water all summer!

Finn's Tip: **Add mulch and native plants—less watering, more beauty.**

JUNE



Dive Into Pool Water Efficiency

Learn how to save pool water—for example, buy a cover to prevent evaporation.

Finn's Tip: **Cover your pool when not in use—cut thousands of gallons lost!**



Save Water All Year



JULY

Get Smart About Outdoor Water Use

Water your plants early in the morning so it soaks in before the heat.

Finn's Tip: **Check faucets and toilets for drips; a quick fix prevents big waste!**

#SmartIrrigationMonth

AUGUST



Leave Water Waste High and Dry

Take 5 minutes over 5 days to check and fix leaks—stop wasteful and costly water leaks. In drought or heat, ensure your home and community use only the water needed.

Finn's Tip: **Water deeply but infrequently—check soil first!**

#WorldWaterWeek August 25-27

SEPTEMBER



Back to School Water Savings

As kids head back to school, practice saving water every day.

Finn's Tip: **Run full loads in dishwasher/washer and aim for shorter showers.**

OCTOBER

Energize Your Water Savings

Saving water means saving energy—shut off showers and dishwashers to cut kilowatt-hours each month.

Finn's Tip: **Air-dry dishes to reduce hot water use.**

#EnergyAwarenessMonth

NOVEMBER



Saving Water Is Easy as Pie

Temperatures are dropping—get your irrigation system ready for cooler weather by adjusting watering times or reprogramming your smart controller.

Finn's Tip: **Lower sprinkler run times—plants need less in fall/winter.**

#SmartIrrigationMonth

DECEMBER

More Water Savings Are Merrier

During the holidays, save water by running full dishwasher loads and scraping plates instead of rinsing.

Finn's Tip: **Reuse veggie rinse water for plants—no pre-rinsing needed!**



THE WATER SMARTER CHALLENGE



FINN IS ON A MISSION TO SAVE WATER AND HE CAN'T DO IT ALONE!
COMPLETE EACH ACTION TO HELP YOUR HOME, YOUR FAMILY, AND THE PLANET.
WHEN YOU FINISH ONE, CHECK THE BOX AND MOVE ON TO THE NEXT CHALLENGE!

ACTION

DID IT!

TOOK SHOWERS OF 10 MINUTES OR LESS

(SAVING THOUSANDS OF GALLONS A YEAR WITH EFFICIENT RINSING!)

FIXED DRIPPING FAUCETS OR LEAKING TOILETS AT HOME

(STOPPED SNEAKY DRIPS WASTING 3,000+ GALLONS YEARLY).

TURNED OFF THE WATER WHILE BRUSHING TEETH OR LATHERING SOAP.

(SAVED ~200 GALLONS PER MONTH PER PERSON!).

RAN THE WASHING MACHINE ONLY WHEN FULL.

(REDUCED LAUNDRY WATER USE BY UP TO 50%).

USED A FILLED SINK TO WASH DISHES INSTEAD OF LETTING THE TAP RUN.

(SAVED 20+ GALLONS PER LOAD—NO CONSTANT FLOW!).

CHECKED OUTDOOR HOSE BIBS AND SPRINKLERS FOR LEAKS

(PREVENTED HIDDEN OUTDOOR WASTE).

WATERED THE LAWN/GARDEN EARLY IN THE MORNING OR LATE EVENING

(MINIMIZE EVAPORATION).

USED A BROOM INSTEAD OF A HOSE TO CLEAN DRIVEWAYS OR SIDEWALKS

(SAVED 50-100 GALLONS PER CLEANING).



BONUS CHALLENGE COMPLETED:

USED A POOL COVER TO REDUCE EVAPORATION

(SAVED THOUSANDS OF GALLONS ANNUALLY!)

