****

**WATER CONSERVATION TIPS FOR BRENTWOOD WATER CUSTOMERS**

1. **CHECK FOR WATER LEAKS.** A small leak of only one gallon per minute equates to almost 45,000 gallons of wasted water in a month. Over a year, this can cost a customer close to $4000.00 or more. Some simple actions you can take to check for leaks are:
	1. Periodically check your yard for spots that remain uncharacteristically wet, particularly if you are one of the many Brentwood residences with an irrigation system. Please note that leaks are not uncommon around your meter, so if wetness is evident at this location, please contact the Water Department at

615-371-0080 because a leak on the “public” side of the meter is the City’s responsibility to address.

* 1. Listen closely in bathrooms for any constant hissing sound. Toilets can run for long periods of time without you noticing.
	2. Contact the billing department at 615-661-7061 for a review of your consumption. If consumption has recently increased for no particular reason, it could signal a leak. It is important to document this in order for a leak adjustment to be made to your bill.
	3. Turn off all faucets, washing machines, etc., in your house and visually examine your meter. If it is turning there is most likely a leak. Brentwood Water personnel routinely respond to questions regarding leaks and often meet customers to help determine if a leak is present.
1. **REVIEW YOUR OUTSIDE IRRIGATION.** Peak usage in the summertime in Brentwood is approximately four times the usage in the winter, which is a much higher ratio than the typical 2.0 to 2.5 “peak day” factor. Brentwood is a beautiful place to live, and many homes have landscaping that requires irrigation. However, there are conservation measures that are possible which would not compromise landscaped vegetation:
	1. Consult with a landscaping contractor or your irrigation service contractor for their advice on water saving possibilities.
	2. Water at night when the humidity is the highest and the temperature is the lowest.
	3. Consider moisture sensors for your system so that programmed irrigation cycles do not take place if rain has been abundant (or is occurring).
	4. If you are only irrigating flower beds or gardens, consider drip irrigation rather than surface-sprayed systems.
2. **CONSIDER WATER USAGE WHEN APPLIANCE SHOPPING.** When compared to leaks and excessive irrigation in Brentwood, spending hundreds of dollars to change out appliances simply for water savings does not make economic sense. However, there are some simple steps to take that could result in water savings:
	1. Change out shower heads to fixtures which utilize no more than 2.0 gallons per minute. Showering alone constitutes 17% of indoor water usage. Showering uses less water than bathing.
	2. When purchasing new appliances such as dishwashers and clothes washers, ask what the water usage is and consider that cost alongside the cost of energy and the appliance itself. Look for products with EPA’s “Watersense” label, which is the equivalent of the “Energy Star” label.



1. **EDUCATE YOURSELF.** There is an abundant amount of information available regarding water conservation. You are always welcome to contact the City of Brentwood Water Department, or review any of these links below:
	1. <http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/> - EPA’s website for water conservation
	2. <http://www.tnaqua.org/protect-freshwater/> - A site operated by the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga. Good tips about conservation
	3. <https://drinktap.org/Water-Info/Water-Conservation/Water-Use-Statistics> A site run by the American Water Works Association about conservation.