

# Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

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## *Cham Tema*

“Our Land”

## **Soboba Tribal Environmental Department**

The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians' Tribal Environmental Department is committed to protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural resources on the Soboba Reservation for all Tribal Members: past, present, and future.

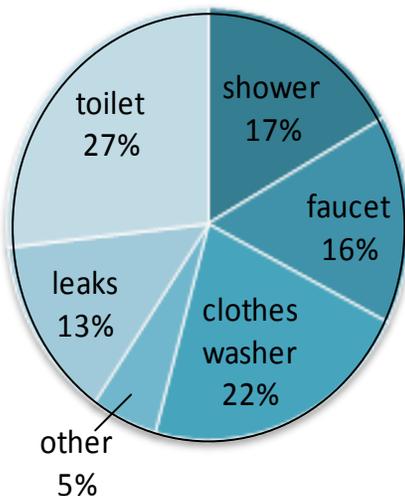


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# Water Conservation

Less than 1% of all the water on Earth can be used by people. The rest is salt water or is permanently frozen and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants. As our population grows, more and more people are using up this limited resource. Therefore, it is important that we use our water wisely and not waste it. Estimates vary, but each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day. The largest use of household water is to flush the toilet (about 27% of household water), and after that, to take showers and baths. Here are some simple ways to save water in some of the places we use it most.

## Uses of Household Water



Source: American Water Works Association Research Foundation, "Residential End Uses of Water," 1999

### Bathroom:

- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth or shaving and you can save up to 8 gallons/day
- Shortening your shower by 5 minutes can save up to 25 gallons/day
- Fix leaky faucets or toilets. A dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day, while a leaking toilet can waste 90,000 gallons in a month.
- Installing inexpensive faucet aerators can save several gallons of water per person every day.

- Replace your old shower head with a low-flow model and cut your water use by 20% or more every time you shower.
- If possible, replace your old toilet with a modern, water-efficient one and use about half the water per flush.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

### Kitchen/Laundry:

- Wash fruits and vegetables in a basin
- Scrape your dishes instead of rinsing before using the dishwasher and use only with full loads
- Wash only full loads of laundry and use the correct water level for different load sizes if you must do smaller loads.
- When shopping for a new clothes washer, compare resource savings among Energy Star models. Some of these can save up to 20 gallons per load, and energy too.

### Outdoor/Landscaping:

- Water during the coolest part of the day to minimize evaporation, avoid watering on windy days and wasting water on sidewalks
- Set a kitchen timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you when to stop. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons a minute.
- Choose plants that are appropriate for the climate, they'll use less water.
- Use organic mulch around plants to help reduce evaporation
- Set your lawn mower cutting height to a higher level – longer grass reduce evaporation and help inhibit weed growth
- Instead of hosing your driveway or sidewalk, use a broom.
- We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.

Answers to back page crossword: 1) hurts 2) turn 3) litter 4) trees 5) earth 6) animals 7) noise 8) environment 9) rags 10) give 11) off 12) people 13) everyone 14) water 15) air 16) fish 17) insects 18) plants 19) away 20) glut 21) waste 22) water 23) ugly 24) cars

# Reducing Waste on Your Summer Vacation

## Planning and Packing

- Before you leave, adjust the air conditioning and water heater thermostats to conserve energy.
- Rather than buying travel-sized toiletries, fill reusable containers with shampoo, soap, and other necessities.
- Reuse shopping bags to pack items for your trip and recycle them afterwards. Plastic bags are perfect for keeping dirty shoes and wet bathing suits separate from other items in your suitcase, or for packing snacks for the car.
- Book flights that offer electronic tickets.

## On the Road

- When you leave your hotel room, switch off electronics, lights, and TV to reduce energy use.
- Consider reusing towels and skipping room service for a day or two if it isn't necessary.
- Remember to take only the amount of products you need. Take only napkins, free brochures, maps, or coupons that you will actually use.
- When traveling, make sure your vehicle is well-maintained. This improves fuel economy which

prevents pollution and saves you money!

## Fun For Kids

- Bring scrap paper for drawing and games.
- Start an art project with "found" objects—collages and sculptures made from discarded items are a growing trend!
- Build a backyard fort or tree house from recycled materials, such as wood scraps or cardboard.

## Enjoying the Outdoors

- Set the picnic table with reusable dinnerware or ask people to bring their own reusable containers.
- Be sure to recycle used beverage containers. Consider putting a filter on your water tap and refilling bottles with the filtered water. Instead of buying many small drink bottles, buy drinks or drink mixes in bulk and fill reusable bottles.
- At the beach, use old buckets and items in your house to build sand castles instead of buying new products at the store.
- When visiting beaches and parks, be sure to take out everything you bring in, so that you leave places uncluttered and undisturbed.



Soboba's 5th Annual Earth Day took place on April 21, 2011 one day before the National Earth Day that occurs each year on April 22. The Environmental

Department would like to thank all of the community members who came to the event along with all of the organizations and other tribes who helped to make it such a great day. There were many entertaining things for the kids to do, opportunities to get information on what you can do to help out the environment, get eco-friendly give-aways, and have tons of fun. Southern California Edison's mobile energy unit attended the event and had a lot of good information about saving energy and money. In case you didn't get a chance to see it, there are plenty of rebates and ways to reduce your energy bill on their website:

<http://www.sce.com/residential/residential.htm>

## Soboba's Earth Day 2011



