

Places for More Information

<http://wateruseitwisely.com/index.php>



<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>
or (866) WTR-SENS (987-7367)



<http://www.emwd.org/index.aspx?page=5>
or 951-928-3777 ext. 3322



<http://www.saveourh2o.org/>



<http://www.bewaterwise.com/index.html>
or 1-877-CFLIFE 1 (1-877-235-4331)



Any Questions or Concerns?

**Contact the Tribal
Environmental Office at
951.654.5544
Ext. 4129/4130**



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**P.O Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581**

**23906 Soboba Road
San Jacinto, CA 92583**

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Water Conservation



**Soboba Tribal
Environmental Department
951.654.5544 ext. 4129/4130**

Saving Water

There are several ways to think about water conservation: saving water, not wasting water, water efficiency, and using less water. They all are ways to consume less water so that more is left for the environment and future use.

About 70 percent of the Earth's surface is water-covered. Not all of this water is available to people for use. Most of the water that people and ecosystems need every day comes from surface freshwater sources, lakes and rivers, which equal less than 0.01% of all water. Below is one estimate of how much water is in each form.

Water Source	Water in mi ³	Fresh water %	Total water %
Oceans & Seas	321,000,000		96.54
Ice Caps & Glaciers	5,773,000	68.6	1.74
Groundwater	5,614,000		1.69
Fresh	2,526,000	30.1	0.76
Saline	3,088,000		0.93
Soil Moisture	3,959	0.05	0.001
Ground Ice & Permafrost	71,970	0.86	0.022
Lakes	42,320		0.013
Fresh	21,830	0.26	0.007
Saline	20,490		0.007
Atmosphere	3,095	0.04	0.001
Swamp Water	2,752	0.03	0.0008
Rivers	509	0.006	0.0002
Biological Water	269	0.003	0.0001

Source: Igor Shiklomanov's chapter "World fresh water resources" in Peter H. Gleick (editor), 1993, *Water in Crisis: A Guide to the World's Fresh Water*

Water Conservation and the Environment

When reservoir water levels get lower and ground water tables drop, water supplies, human health, and the environment are put at serious risk. For example, lower water levels can contribute to higher concentrations of natural and human pollutants by limiting the volume in which they are usually diluted. When people use more water, more is diverted from lakes and rivers, which can reduce habitat for aquatic life and put a strain on plants that grow along the banks.



Less water going down the drain means more water available in the lakes, rivers and streams that we use for recreation and wildlife uses to survive. Using water more efficiently helps maintain supplies at safe levels, protecting human health and the environment.

Things You Can Do to Conserve Water

- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth/shaving. 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.
- A low-flow shower head can cut your water use by 20% or more every time you shower.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak.
- Scrape your dishes instead of rinsing before the dishwasher and use only with full loads
- Wash only full loads of laundry or use the correct water level for different load sizes.
- Water during the coolest part of the day to minimize evaporation; avoid watering on windy days and wasting water on sidewalks
- Set a timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you to stop. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons a minute.
- Use organic mulch around plants to help reduce evaporation
- Instead of hosing your driveway or sidewalk, use a broom.
- Don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.