

Why conserve water?

Water scarcity is a local, national and global issue. West Kootenay residents use an average of 500 litres of water each day—more than almost anyone else in the world. On top of that, our demand can double in summer months due to outdoor water use.

In Nelson, we rely exclusively on mountain watersheds for our water supply. We are fortunate to have high quality water sources, but they can be limited in summer months when demand is at its highest and precipitation is at its lowest.

As a community, Nelson has always come together and been successful in conserving water. We need your continued support to protect our watershed and ensure adequate water supply for our community.

Want to learn more?

To learn more about water conservation, contact us!

City of
NELSON

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City of
NELSON



Saving Water at Home



Outside

Simple Ways to Save Water

Inside

Water in the evening or early morning

During the heat of the day, up to half of water used is lost to evaporation.

Improve your soil conditions

Add compost or top soil to your garden and lawn to improve water retention.

Harvest the rain

Use rain barrels or cisterns to collect rainwater for use in your garden.

“Hydrozone” your landscape

Group your plants according to their watering needs for efficient irrigation.

Don’t overwater your lawn

An hour a week of sprinkling or rain is all you need to keep your lawn healthy.

Let grass grow to 3-5cm

The shade from taller grass allows root establishment and reduces evaporation.



We all have a role to play in conserving water. Here are some of the many steps you can take to reduce your household's water use and protect our precious water supply.



Take shorter showers

Use a shower timer and reduce your showering time by 1-2 minutes to save over 2500L a month.

Install a toilet bag

Lower your toilet's water usage by decreasing the amount of water it uses per flush.

Run appliances full

Don't run your dishwasher or washing machine unless they are full to reduce the number of loads you do.

Turn off the tap

Shut off the tap while brushing teeth, shaving, or washing up to reduce water use by 60 to 80 per cent.

Check for leaks

Regularly check your toilets and faucets for leaks to ensure you aren't wasting water.

Buy efficient appliances

Look for products with "WaterSense" certification – these appliances can cut water use in half.