Conservation Tips

The best way to save on your SCWA bill is to make sure you are using water efficiently.

Limit Lawn Watering

Try an Odd/Even Schedule
Odd numbered addresses water on odd days, while even numbered addresses water on even days.

Smart Irrigation Systems
Built-in water saving features include weather sensors that adjust optimal sprinkler run times to reduce wasted/excess water.

Rain Sensors
Can be added to most existing irrigation systems to reduce wasted/excess water.

Reducing Run Times/Run Days
- Manually adjust irrigation timers to water 2/3 days per week with shortened run times per zone. This reduces over-watering which helps support deep root growth for a healthier lawn.
- Change irrigation timers to run between 9 p.m. and midnight to reduce water use during peak hours.

Join SCWA’s East End Water Wise Club
The East End Water Wise Club is a water conservation-oriented initiative that offers customers the opportunity to apply for an account credit of up $50 per account for the purchase of low-flow showerheads and faucet fixtures and/or a rain sensor for lawn watering systems.

To join, go to www.scwa.com/eastendwaterclub/
Detect and Fix Leaks

To check for leaks:
- Make sure all faucets/spigots inside and outside your home are closed tightly.
- Look at your water meter and note the number.
- Leave faucets/spigots closed for 20 minutes.
- Look at your water meter again. If the number changes, you likely have a leak somewhere in your home.
- Inspect the piping in your home for cracks and leaks. Check outdoor piping and hoses as well.

To check your toilet for leaks:
- Remove the toilet tank lid.
- Drop one tablet or ten drops of food dye into the tank.
- Put the lid back on. Do not flush.
- Wait 10-15 minutes and then check the bowl. If the food dye appears in the water, your toilet is leaking.

Limit Indoor Water Usage

- Limit shower times to five minutes.
- Make sure the faucet is turned off when brushing teeth, shaving, and soaping hands.
- Run washing machines and dishwashers only when full.

Limit Outdoor Water Usage

- Instead of washing your car in the driveway, bring it to a commercial car wash that recycles water instead.
- Consider a low maintenance lawn.
  - Use native ground cover that requires little water instead of grass.
  - Use mulch when planting to prevent water loss through evaporation.

Use EPA “WaterSense” Products

Look for the EPA “WaterSense” logo when purchasing washing machines, dishwashers, showerheads, sinks, toilets, faucet aerators and other water products.

SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY