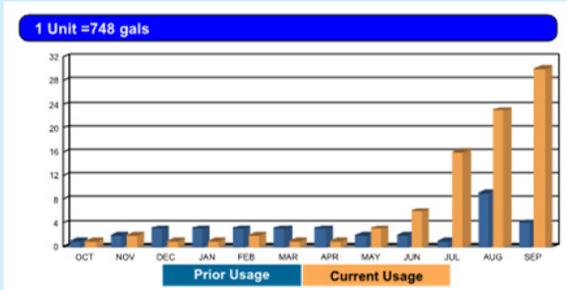


Save Water & Save Money!

Your Amador Water Agency water bill can help you track your water use and save money when you conserve.

How to use your water bill to save money:

Look for the following CONSUMPTION HISTORY graph on your monthly water bill (see sample below). It shows monthly water use in units for the previous and current years. You can measure your water conservation effort -- and save money -- by monitoring and comparing your water use each month.



Paperless and autopay customers

can see their Consumption History by logging into their account: Click the Pay My Bill button, upper left corner of the AWA website (AmadorWater.org), and log into your account. On the dashboard, click on the Usage tab to compare several years' monthly water use.

QUESTIONS? Contact AWA Customer Service, Monday - Friday, 8:00 - 4:30, at 209-223-3018 or customerservice@AmadorWater.org.

Need More Help?

Amador Water Agency Customer Service staff and field technicians are available to help you with questions concerning how to use this Home Water Audit, problems with leaks, and how you can conserve our most precious resource -- water.

The AWA Customer Service desk is open from 8 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday, 209-223-3018.

More customer service information and water saving tips are available at: www.AmadorWater.org.



Home Water Audit

The Mokelumne River, supplied by rain and snow in the High Sierras, is the main source of water for Amador County.

Are you using water wisely at home?

This Home Water Audit is a “do-it-yourself” water saving challenge that can result in tremendous savings in household water use.

Amador Water Agency

12800 Ridge Rd, Sutter Creek, CA 95685
209-223-3018
www.AmadorWater.org

Check for Leaks

You can significantly reduce water use by simply repairing leaks or drips in faucets and showerheads or pipes. Repair leaks or faulty sprinklers within 5 days.

- Outdoor leaks:** Don't forget to periodically check the outdoor hoses, sprinklers, and faucets for leaks. Also, remember to keep the sprinkler heads in good shape.
- Toilets:** Put food coloring or dye tablet in your toilet tank and leave the toilet alone for at least a half hour. If dye from the tank appears in the toilet bowl, you have a leak between the tank and the bowl. You may need to replace the washer between the tank and bowl, or call a plumber.
- An unexplained jump in your monthly water bill** could mean you have a leak. If you need help locating a leak, contact AWA Customer Service 209-223-3018.

Lawn & Garden Irrigation

- Is watering set for 2 days per week after 7 pm and before 9 am** on your automatic watering system?
- Check your watering system** after it has run part-way through the time cycle. Is there any run-off, street flooding or puddling? Avoid overwatering. Most of the year, lawns only need one inch of water per week, and a heavy rain eliminates the need for watering for up to two weeks.

YEAR-ROUND CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers promptly.
- No irrigation during and up to 48 hours after measurable rainfall.
- Any run-off or street flooding from outdoor irrigation is prohibited.

- Use a hose timer.** If your sprinklers are attached to a hose, use a hose timer (available at hardware and garden stores). You can set watering time, how often and how long, automatically. Never forget the hose is running again!
- Use drip irrigation** for vegetable gardens, shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed. If you decide to use a sprinkler, look for models that produce droplets, not mist, and set them to water lawns and gardens only.

- Do you have shutoff nozzles on your hoses?** Use shutoff nozzles when hand watering.
- Install a rain sensor** on any automatic irrigation so your system won't run when it's raining.

Swimming Pools & Fountains

Do you have a swimming pool, hot tub, fountain or water feature, or a pond?

- Install a water-saving pool filter.**
- When backflushing your pool,** consider using the water on your landscaping.

YEAR-ROUND CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Drinking water used in decorative fountains must be recirculated.
- Cover pools and spas to reduce evaporation.

Driveways Sidewalks & Patios

- Use broom or leaf blower to clean concrete surfaces.

Cars, Boats & Other Vehicles

- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water. When washing your own car, boat or other vehicle, use a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted down to a fine spray on your hose, or use water from a bucket.

YEAR-ROUND CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Washing sidewalks, driveways, patios, parking lots, and tennis courts with water is prohibited.
- An automatic shut-off nozzle or valve is required when washing cars and other vehicles.

Water Wise Landscaping

- Can you reduce the amount of lawn in your yard? Lawns often account for the largest portion of a home's water bill. Only use turf where it highlights the home and has a practical function, such as in play areas. Select a type of grass that can withstand drought periods and become dormant during hot, dry seasons. Consider native shrubs or groundcover for steep slopes, isolated strips, and shady areas, where it takes a lot of extra work to maintain grass.

- Are you using mulch in your planted areas?** A layer of organic mulch around plants to reduces evaporation, retains moisture, reduces weed growth, and saves water, time and money
- Visit "Water-Wise Gardening in the Gold Country Region"** for a watering guide and practical tips on creating a beautiful garden with less water: www.rwa.watersavingplants.com

Indoor Water Use

- Do you have low flow toilets in the home?** Older toilets, made before 1992, use up to 3.5 gallons per flush, and are responsible for much of the water wasted in American homes. Consider installing an EPA WaterSense®-labeled toilet, with a maximum of 1.3 gallons per flush, and equal or superior performance.
- Do you have low-flow showerheads and faucets?** Low-flow fixtures, including faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads, are generally inexpensive to replace and are the most cost-effective water conservation measures without sacrificing performance. EPA WaterSense®-labeled aerators, faucets, and showerheads are available at home improvement stores.
- Check your dishwasher and washing machine** To save water and energy, wash only full loads in your dishwasher and washing machine; or set the water level for the size of your load, if possible, to use less water.

A traditional-top loading **clothes washer** uses three times as much water as front loaders. To purchase a washer that uses less water, look for the blue ENERGY STAR® label that indicates these washers use 25 percent less energy and 33 percent less water than other current models.

To save water and energy, consider a high-efficiency ENERGYSTAR® labeled model when purchasing a new **dishwasher**. A standard-sized ENERGY STAR®-certified dishwasher costs about \$35 per year to run and can save you an average 3,870 gallons of water over its lifetime.

YEAR-ROUND CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Wash only full loads when machine-washing dishes or clothes when possible.
- Use of water conservation kits supplied by AWA or other water utilities. Call AWA Customer Service, 209-223-3018, for availability.