



SUMMER 2022

wellcare® Hotline: 888-395-1033

Dear Well Owners Network Member:

Summer is upon us! Unfortunately, storms and drought are too. We cannot stop them from happening, but we can provide the tools so you can prepare. This newsletter is here to help keep your summer plans intact and your family and well safe. Let's dive in!

If you have questions regarding these topics, if you cannot find what you're looking for, or if you have any other questions on wells and well water, the [wellcare®](#) Hotline can help! Contact the [wellcare®](#) Hotline at 888-395-1033 or [wellcarehotline.org](#). Don't forget to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) for extra tips, industry news, and more!

Be Keen to Being Green



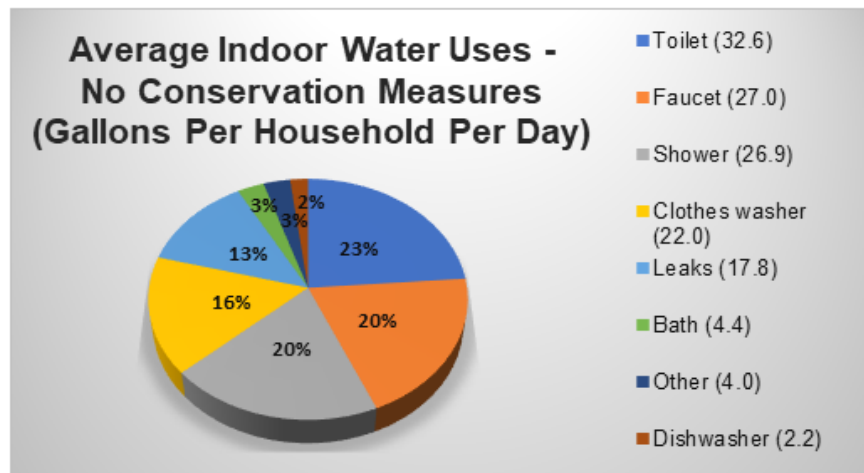
water appliances I should not have to worry.” Not the case! New homes typically have

This is a topic we cover regularly to stress the importance of water conservation because the truth is **many areas are facing serious water shortages**. Water is being used faster than it can be naturally replenished. You may be thinking, “I have a newer home with efficient

more efficient fixtures and use less water, but they usually have more fixtures - bathrooms, garbage disposal, whirlpool tub, hot tub, or swimming pool - that consume greater quantities of water. This article is intended to help all well owners with all styles of homes take steps to reduce water use, safeguard their drinking water supply, save money, and protect the environment. Trust us, you do not want to wait until a prolonged drought or water shortage creates a water emergency like a dry well!

Average Water Use

The average family uses more than 300 gallons of water per day at home and 70 percent of this use occurs indoors. Efforts to reduce water consumption are especially important if you have a low yielding well (less than 5 gallons a minute), if you live in a drought region, or in an area of rapid development where groundwater supplies are strained. The following chart shows average indoor water uses with no conservation measures to help you make an informed decision on where you can save water! Keep an eye on the [Drought Monitor map](#) throughout the dry months.



Conduct a Household Water Audit

A household water audit is an evaluation of how much water is used and how much water can be saved. This is important for well owners since they do not have a water bill that provides this information. Conducting a water audit involves calculating water usage first. This [Water Footprint Calculator](#) can help. It is very thorough and upon completion, you can have the report emailed to you. You can compare your results with the chart on the previous page. Consider what the reasons may be for high levels of water use. Are fixtures leaking or are appliances old and inefficient? Or is it the way you use the water

(e.g., long showers, half-full loads of laundry)? Continue your water audit by reading through the following simple ways to save water in and around your home.

Change Behavior

Small changes in behavior can also reap major benefits in water conservation and save money by reducing wear and tear on your well and septic system. Just think about the hundreds of gallons of water you are pumping from your well each day to your home. That water is then released from your home which goes to your septic system. These heavy uses will eventually cause expensive repair or replacement and exhaust groundwater resources. Limit demand by spreading out your daily and weekly water uses, such as bathing, watering the garden, and washing dishes or clothes. Remember, even seemingly small measures can save thousands of gallons of water per year. Try using some (or all!) these methods to save:

Inside

- Turn off the tap when brushing teeth, shaving, or scrubbing.
- Use the sink, not running water, to rinse your razor.
- Do not use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Take shorter showers.
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator rather than running the tap.
- Run the clothes washer and dishwasher only with full loads.

Outside

- DO NOT use your well to fill pools, hot tubs, or for other large uses. Use a water delivery service instead.
- Water during the coolest part of the day, preferably in the early morning, to reduce evaporation. Most established lawns and gardens need just one hour of deep watering once a week to remain healthy. Remember to water just the grass, not the pavement!
- Set the lawnmower to 3 inches. Longer grass allows less evaporation and shades the roots from drying out so quickly.
- In the garden, switch from sprinklers to soaker hoses.
- Look for native perennial plants and grass seeds at the garden center. These require much less water, particularly in drier climates than tropical annuals.
- Use mulch to retain water in the soil and reduce thirsty weeds.
- Fit all hoses with a sprayer to control flow.

- Use a broom, not a hose, to clear debris from sidewalks.
- Wash the car with soap and water from a bucket.

Continue reading our [Water Conservation information sheet](#) for additional measures you can take in and around your home.

Water you doing while storms are brewing?



We hope you are preparing! It only takes one flood, one hurricane, one tornado, or one wildfire to wreak havoc. If you are not prepared, you should take action now to [#bestormready](#).

Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricanes can happen along any US coastal area or any territory in the Atlantic or Pacific oceans. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30. The Eastern Pacific hurricane season runs from May 15 to November 30 and the Central Pacific hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30. Hurricanes are not just a coastal problem. Rain, wind, floodwater, and tornadoes can happen far inland from where a hurricane or tropical storm makes landfall. Prepare your family and home before disaster strikes! For more information go to [ready.gov/hurricanes](https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes).

Wildfire Ready

Wildfires are unplanned and dangerous. Fires can devastate natural areas and spread quickly through communities. You cannot prevent damage, but you can take steps to be ready for a wildfire. Visit [ready.gov/wildfires](https://www.ready.gov/wildfires).

Helpful resources for before and after the storm or wildfire can also be found on our [Emergencies page](#).

Like us or follow us on [Facebook](#) for more [#bestormready](#) tips.

Zinc at the Sink



Zinc is a necessary nutrient for your body in small amounts. Zinc is known for being in many nutritional supplements, used in plumbing and batteries, and in penny production. **Did you know you can also have zinc in your water?** It's true.

Zinc can be found naturally in air, soil, and **water**, and enter the environment through anthropogenic activities like mining and metal processing. Elevated levels of zinc in drinking water may cause the water to have a milky, chalky, or turbid appearance and a metallic or bitter taste. Testing your well water is important to ensure your water quality is safe for you and your family. You should test for zinc initially and monitor any level found annually thereafter. Contact your state or local health department or use [our interactive map](#) for a list of state-certified laboratories in your area.

Download our [Zinc & Well Water information sheet](#) for more information.

Hotline HOT Topic: Location, Location, Location

How do I locate the water well on my property?

Many states have water well records or maps online that you can search. If you are unable to find records, look for a wellhead above ground (see our [sample well diagram](#)) or follow



the main water line from your home straight to the outside. There may also be a concrete slab or depression in the yard where the well is located. If you have a septic system, the well would be located on the opposite side of the septic. For instance, if your septic is in the back of the house, your well is usually in the front.

If you need assistance locating your well, [contact a licensed well contractor](#) or the [wellcare® Hotline](#).



Still Have Questions?

We can help! Call the [wellcare® Hotline](#) at 888-395-1033, [complete an online form](#), [send us an email](#), or [chat with us live!](#)

Connect with us

