

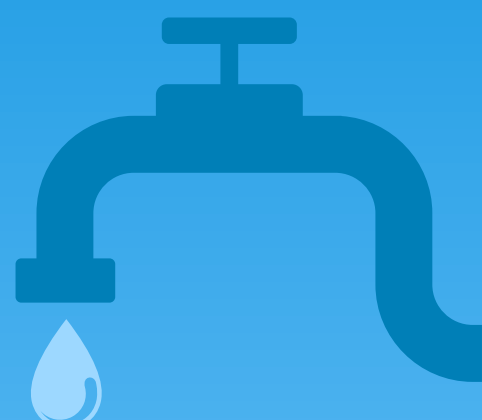


# UNDERSTANDING WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation is the most important action you can take to sustain our water supplies, meet future needs and reduce demands on Florida's water-dependent ecosystems such as springs, rivers, lakes and wetlands.

## CHECK FOR LEAKS BOTH INSIDE AND OUT

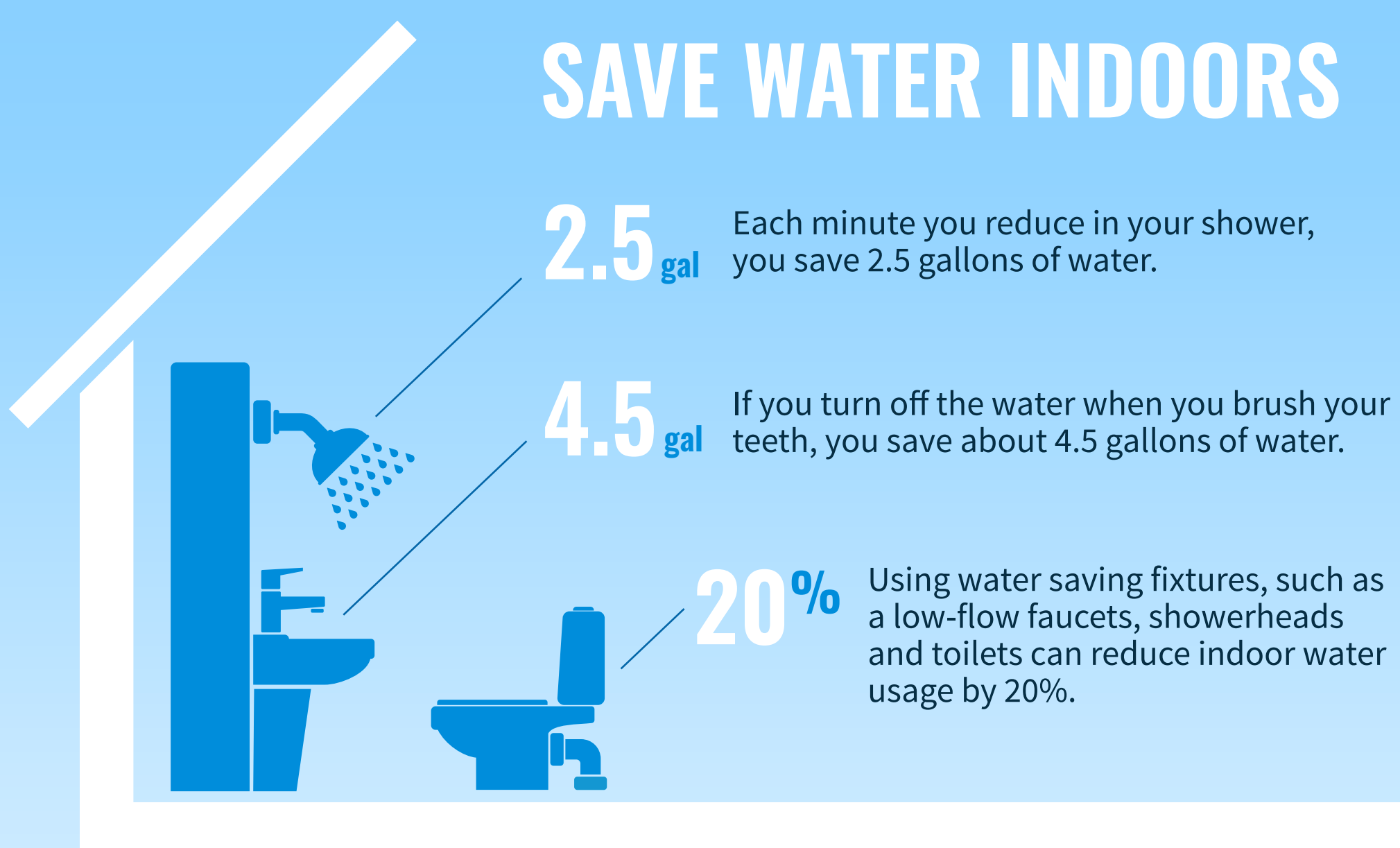
Even a slow drip from an outdoor spigot is wasted water.



### SIGNS OF A WATER LEAK:

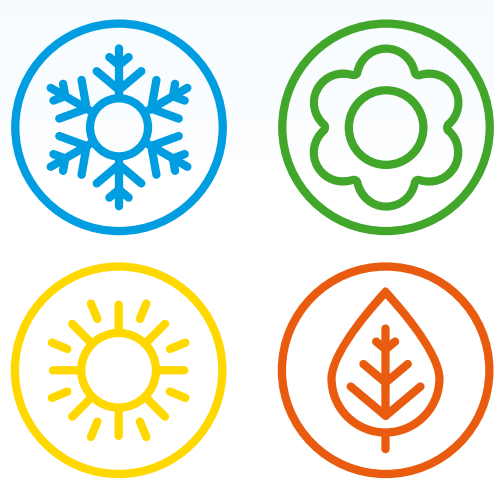
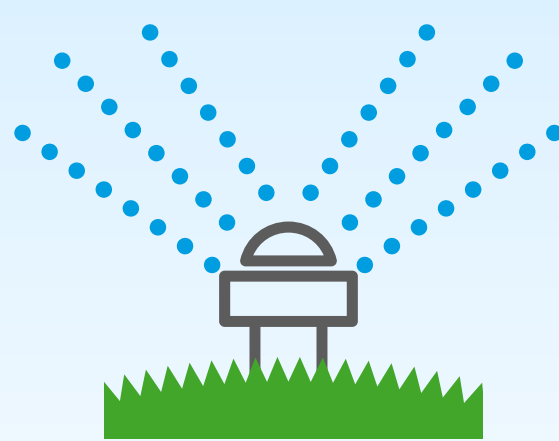
- ◆ Keep an eye out for unusually soft, damp or moldy areas surrounded by dry areas.
- ◆ Check your water bill for increased usage.
- ◆ Listen for sounds such as static, hissing, splashing or clicking.
- ◆ Look for cracks, stains, sinking, bubbling or peeling of ceilings, wall and floors.
- ◆ Turn off all your water, then check to make sure your meter is not running.
- ◆ Increased humidity, a drop of water pressure, and a musty or earthy odor.

## SAVE WATER INDOORS



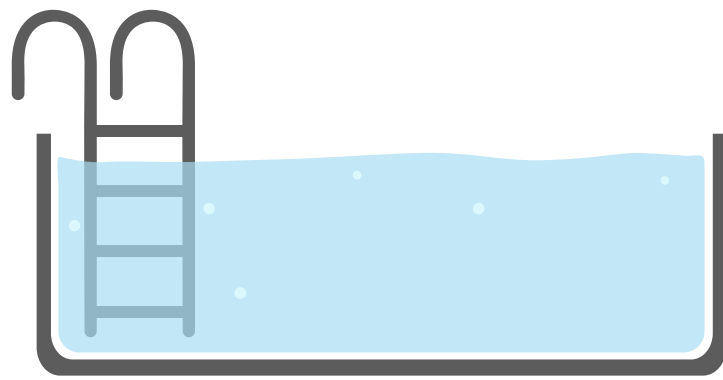
## SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

- ◆ Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas.
- ◆ Use head-to-head sprinkler spacing.
- ◆ Consider using a microirrigation or drip irrigation system in your landscaped beds, as it is more precise and saves water.



- ◆ Be aware of how much water your lawn and plants need. Summer rains may provide ample rain. In winter months, you may skip watering if your lawn is dormant.
- ◆ Install and maintain a rain sensor so your system can turn off when it is raining. Some smart controllers use weather data or soil moisture to automatically manage your settings. Many systems can be controlled directly from your phone.
- ◆ Avoid irrigating on rainy or windy days.

- ◆ Ensure your swimming pool is not overfilled and use a cover to reduce evaporation.



- ◆ Avoid using the hose when a broom will do. A hose uses between 9 to 23 gallons per minute.

- ◆ Use the carwash. Washing the car at home uses an average of 100 gallons, while a self-service car wash uses an average of 18 gallons.



# PROTECTING TOGETHER

[ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/WaterConservation](http://ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/WaterConservation)