



WATER CONSERVATION GUIDE

Why Conserve Water?

Water is the most important natural resource we have today. To help preserve our water resources in the Big Bear region, Bear Valley Electric Service has partnered with Southwest Gas, the City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water, and Big Bear City Community Services District to take the appropriate steps to conserve water. We encourage customers to use water more efficiently in order to help ensure that our community has a reliable source of water for the future.



It is vital that we participate in spreading awareness about the conservation of water to help our community prosper in a time when the drought in California is at its worst. In Bear Valley, the water supply is very limited due to the fact that our water strictly comes from underground aquifers which are solely dependent on precipitation for replenishment. Conserving, using water resourcefully, and eliminating unnecessary and wasteful practices stretches our water supply and allows us to help build a better defense against the drought years and delays the need for new sources of supply.

Are there any water use regulations?

There are various water use regulations that customers are asked to follow. These regulations are made in order to contribute to the conservation of water usage. Some water use regulations may include:

- Water must be used sensibly and efficiently at all times.
- Outdoor watering between 9:00am and 6:00pm from April 1st through November 1st is prohibited.
- No outdoor irrigation during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.
- Use the even/odd schedule. If you have an address that ends in an odd number, water on odd calendar dates and even addresses can water on even calendar dates.
- Do not hose any pavement areas including patios and building structures.
- All water leaks need to be immediately repaired once detected.
- Washing of vehicles, trailers or boats must be done using a bucket and a hose that is equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle.
- Automatic irrigation controllers are required on landscapes greater than 1,000 square feet.





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How can I conserve water outdoors?

There are many ways that you can conserve our outdoor water consumption. A few water saving tips for outdoors would include:

- Do not water your lawn or outdoor plants on windy days –the water will go everywhere except where it is needed most.
- Layer mulch around trees and plants to decrease evaporation.
- Utilize the cycle and soak method—water for three to four minutes and allow a one hour soak time between each cycle.
- Water plants only when it is necessary or needed.
- Group plants that have the same watering needs in order to get the most use out of your water time.
- Punch holes in your lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots rather than just run off the surface.



How can I conserve water in my home?

Many homeowners do not know ways that they can reduce their water usage at home. Here a few tips that homeowners can use to reduce water usage in their home and save money on their monthly utility bill:

- Wash only full loads of clothes.
- Only run the dishwasher when there is a full load.
- Cut your shower time in half. Instead of taking a ten minute shower, take a five minute shower.
- Fill the bathtub halfway or less when bathing.
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Fix any water leaks including toilets, faucets or showerheads.
- Install water-efficient showerheads and high efficiency toilets.

Are there any conservation programs available to help residents reduce their utilities usage?

For water conservation programs, including toilet rebates and turf buybacks, please contact the Big Bear Community Services District or the City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water using the following contact information:

- Big Bear Community Service District at **(909) 585-2565** or visit their website at **www.bbccsd.org**
- The City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water at **(909) 866-5050** or visit their website at **www.bbldwp.com**

For information on Southwest Gas' energy efficiency programs and rebates, please visit **www.swgas.com/efficiency/ca** or call **1-800-654-2765**.

For information on Bear Valley Electric's energy efficiency programs and rebates, please visit **www.bves.com/efficiency-&-environment** or call **1-800-808-2837**.