

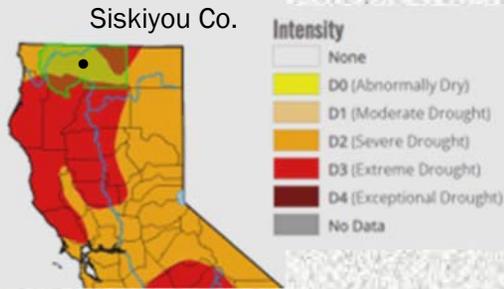
## Why Should You Conserve?

A dripping faucet or leaking toilet can waste up to 11 gallons of water a day. Left unfixed, this seemingly insignificant problem could amount to 4,165 gallons of unused water down the drain in a year's time.

Similarly, while one individual's water usage might not seem significant, a community of individuals implementing water-conscious practices can have a lasting positive impact on an ecosystem. With a minimal investment of time and money, water saving practices preserve resources for the future and save residents money by lowering water bills.

**Siskiyou County overall is in category D2, (Severe Drought).**

### California



Historically observed impacts of category D2:

- Grazing land is inadequate
- Fire season is longer, with high burn intensity, and dry fuels
- Trees are stressed; plant increase reproductive mechanisms; wildlife diseases increase
- Water temps increase; programs to divert water to protect fish begin

From: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

## Tips for Appliances and Plumbing

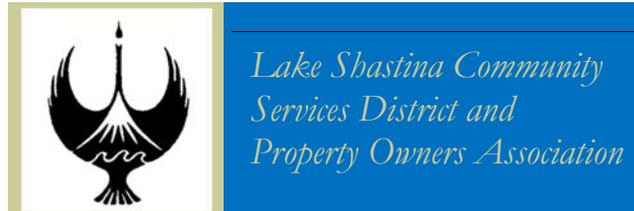
- Check water requirements of various models and brands when considering purchasing any new appliances. Some use less water than others.
- Check all water line connections and faucets for leaks.
- Check for hidden water leakage such as a leak between the water meter and the house. To check, turn off all indoor and outdoor faucets and water-using appliances. The water meter should be read at 10- to 20-minute intervals. If it continues to run or turn, a leak probably exists and needs to be located and repaired.
- Insulate all hot water pipes to reduce the delays (and wasted water) experienced while waiting for the water to become hot.
- Be sure the water heater thermostat is not set too high. Extremely hot settings waste water and energy because the water often has to be cooled with cold water before it can be used.

From: [www.saws.org](http://www.saws.org)

For more helpful tips, visit

<http://lakeshastina.com/WaterConservation.htm>

<https://www.saws.org/conservation/your-role-in-conservation/>



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Lake Shastina Community Services District and Property Owners Association

## Water Conservation

### In the Lake Shastina Area



## Water Conservation

Pure, fresh water is one of Northern California's most valuable resources. In order to protect our limited water supplies, the Lake Shastina Community Services District (LSCSD) is leading the way in water conservation, one of the most cost-effective and environmentally sound ways to reduce demand on local aquifers.

The Lake Shastina community experiences warm, dry summers and rainfall averages as low as 8.25 inches per year\* which produce a high-desert environment. Water usage in Lake Shastina jumps from 160 gallons per day per household in the winter to 888 gallons per day per household in the summer. This results in a peak daily demand on Lake Shastina's wells of 1.7 million gallons.



In a demonstration project (shown above) the LSCSD replaced a small piece of lawn by the Administration Building with water conserving plants, shrubs, and ground cover. With just this small change, the District will save more than 1.5 million gallons of water over the span of five years. Residents are encouraged to participate in this effort by utilizing the tips in this brochure to reduce their indoor and outdoor water consumption.



*Every Drop Counts!*

## Water Conservation Indoors

- Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it. Use it to water your indoor plants or garden.
- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. A leaking faucet can waste up 4,165 gallons of water per year!
- Choose appliances that are more energy and water efficient.
- Consider purchasing a low-volume toilet that uses less than half the water of older models.
- Install a toilet displacement device to cut down on the amount of water needed to flush. Place a one-gallon plastic jug of water into the tank to displace toilet flow. Be sure installation does not interfere with the operating parts.
- Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects, and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.
- Take short showers instead of baths. Turn on water only to get wet and lather and then again to rinse off.
- Avoid letting the water run while brushing your teeth, washing your face, or shaving.
- Operate automatic dishwashers only when they are fully loaded. Use the "light wash" feature, if available, to use less water.
- Hand wash dishes by filling two containers - one with soapy water and the other with rinse water containing a small amount of chlorine bleach.
- Clean vegetables in a pan filled with water rather than running water from the tap.
- Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing of food waste or simply dispose of food in the garbage. (Kitchen sink disposals require a lot of water to operate properly).
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Do not let the tap run while you are waiting for water to cool.
- Avoid rinsing dishes before placing them in the dishwasher; just remove large particles of food.
- Avoid using running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave oven.
- Operate automatic clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or set the water level for the size of your load.

## Water Conservation Outdoors

- Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs, and trees. Once established, they do not need water as frequently and usually will survive a dry period without watering. Small plants require less water to become established. Group plants together based on similar water needs.
- Install irrigation devices that are the most water-efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of efficient devices.
- Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulch also helps control weeds that compete with landscape plants for water.
- Avoid purchasing recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.
- Avoid installing ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless they use recycled water.
- Use a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted down to a fine spray on your hose.
- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water. Park on the grass so that you will be watering it at the same time.
- Water in the early morning hours during the summer to avoid excess evaporation.
- Avoid over watering your lawn. A heavy rain eliminates the need for watering for up to two weeks. Most of the year, lawns only need one inch of water per week.
- Water in several short sessions rather than one long one, in order for your lawn to better absorb moisture.
- Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not on paved areas.
- Avoid sprinklers that spray a fine mist. Mist can evaporate before it reaches the lawn. Check sprinkler systems and timing devices regularly to be sure they operate properly.
- Plant drought-resistant lawn seed.
- Avoid over-fertilizing your lawn. Applying fertilizer increases the need for water.
- Use a broom or blower instead of a hose to clean leaves and other debris from your driveway or sidewalk.
- Avoid leaving sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours.

