

## H2O Diary: How Much Water Do You Use?

**Hypothesis:** How many gallons of water does the average person use per day? \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

**Directions:** This survey is to be conducted truthfully over the course of one week. Put a tally mark in the Times Per Day column every time someone living in your home does the activity.

Activity	Times Per Day							Weekly Total	Estimated Amount of Water Used (in gallons)	Total Weekly Water Used
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
Toilet Flushing									* 5	
Short Shower (5-10 minutes)									* 25	
Long Shower (>10 minutes)									* 35	
Tub Bath									* 35	
Brushing Teeth (running water)									* 2	
Brushing Teeth (water turned off)									* 0.25	
Shaving									* 2	
Washing Dishes (running water)									* 30	
Washing Dishes (Filling a basin)									* 10	
Running a Dishwasher									* 20	
Washing Clothes									* 35	
Watering Lawn									* 300	
Washing Car									* 50	
Total Weekly Water Use (gallons)									=	
Average Daily Water Use (gallons)									/7 =	
Average Individual Daily Water Use (gallons)									/ by number of people living at home =	

(H2O Diary adapted from "Planet H2O," Educational Broadcasting Corporation, WNET New York. [http://www.thirteen.org/h2o/print/p\\_educators\\_lesson4\\_h2.html](http://www.thirteen.org/h2o/print/p_educators_lesson4_h2.html))

**FAMILY CONTRACT: WE PROMISE TO SAVE WATER FOR THE OTTERS!**

<b>HOW WE WILL SAVE WATER</b>	<b>FAMILY MEMBER INITIALS</b>	<b>After Two Weeks: Have We Been Doing a Good Job?</b>
Take Shorter Showers or Shallower Baths		
Don't Let Water Run When Brushing Teeth or Washing Hands		
Flush Only When We Have To		
Run Dishwasher Only When Full		
Hand Wash Dishes With a Full Basin (don't run the water constantly)		
Use A Hose Nozzle For Washing Car and Watering Lawn (and do both less often!)		
Do Only Full Loads of Laundry		

- 1) Talk to your family about ways you can save water.
- 2) Have each family member initial water-saving jobs they will help with.
- 3) Check after two weeks to see if everyone thinks they are doing a good job of saving water.
- 4) Bonus: Your family should save money on their next water bill! That "otter" make everybody happy!

