

Action	Rationale/Assumptions	Water Savings m3/yr	Cost Savings	Effort	Cost to Install	Impact
<b>Overall Usage</b>						
Understand your water usage	understanding your water usage will help you plan savings and identify leaks	-	-	●	-	💧💧💧
Check for leaks	average homeowner wastes 37,000 litres a year from leaks	37	49.10	●●	-	💧💧💧
<b>Bathroom</b>						
Shut off faucet while brushing teeth etc	8.3 litres per minute for 5 minutes	15.2	20.17	●	-	💧💧
Add aerator to faucet	30% reduction when running tap average of 5 minutes per day	4.5	5.97	●	\$	💧
Watersmart showerhead	Savings of 1.9 litres/minute for average 8 minutes shower for 3 people 5x per week	11.8	15.66	●	\$	💧💧
Reduce shower time	Save 9.5 litres per minute for 3 people 5x per week	7.4	9.82	●	-	💧💧
Take a shower instead of a bath	average bath uses 100 litres 2x a shower, assume 2x per week	5.2	6.90	●	-	💧💧
Upgrade toilets older than 1995	37,000 litres per year	37	49.10	●●●●	\$\$	💧💧💧
Fix leaky toilet	757 litres per day	276	366.25	●●●○	\$\$	💧💧💧
<b>Kitchen/Laundry</b>						
Capture excess water from kitchen faucet to keep for drinking or cooking or for plants	8.3 litres per minute for 5 minutes	15.2	20.17	●	-	💧💧
Full load of dishes	Uses 20 litres per use, assumed reduced by 1 load per day	7.6	10.09	●	-	💧💧
Install efficient dishwasher	save 19 litres per use, assume 1 load per day	6.9	9.16	●●●●	\$\$\$	💧💧
Wash dishes in a dishwasher rather than by hand	Save 75 litres per use, assume once/day	27.6	36.63	●	-	💧💧💧
Rinse vegetables in a bowl or basin	8.3 litres per minute for 5 minutes	15.2	20.17	●	-	💧💧
Avoid the garburator	8.3 litres per minute for 5 minutes	15.2	20.17	●	-	💧💧
Full load of laundry	49 litres per use, assume reduced by 1 load per week	2.6	3.45	●	-	💧
Install efficient washing machine	save 38 litres per use, assume 5 loads per week	9.8	13.00	●●●●	\$\$\$	💧💧

Action	Rationale/Assumptions	Water Savings m3/yr	Cost Savings	Effort	Cost to Install	Impact
<b>Outdoor</b>						
Install a rain barrel	208 litre barrel, refilled 3x per year	0.6	0.80	●●	\$\$	💧
Xeriscape your yard	turf lawn needs 1" per week=10,200 litres for a 4000 sqft/370m2 lawn x 20 wks	204.4	271.24	●●●●	\$\$\$	💧💧💧
Water in morning or evening	30% water loss from watering at midday	61.2	81.21	●	-	💧💧💧
Avoid outdoor watering when it's windy	varies with windspeed, 1/3 loss, assume watering 1x per week for 20 weeks	67.3	89.31	●	-	💧💧💧
Use drip irrigation instead of sprinklers	Can save 50% of sprinkler system	102	135.35	●●	\$\$	💧💧💧
Use a timer for outdoor watering	average sprinkler water flow is 64 litres per minute, assume overage of 15 minutes per week for 20 weeks	19.3	25.61	●	\$	💧💧💧
Mulch your garden	Reduces necessary watering by 33%	67.3	89.31	●●	\$\$	💧💧💧
Let grass grow taller & grasscycling	Similar to mulching	67.3	89.31	●	-	💧💧💧
Replace lawn with drought tolerant lawn cover	Varies with species		0.00	●●●●	\$\$\$	💧💧
Plant drought tolerant trees and shrubs	Varies with species		0.00	●●	\$\$	💧💧
<b>Other</b>						
Use a broom instead of water to clean outdoor surfaces	average water flow from outdoor hose = 45 litres per minute, assumed at 30 minutes per week for 26 weeks	35.4	46.98	●	-	💧💧💧
Keep your car dirty	average is 60 litres per vehicle for self serve, assume 2x per month	0.72	0.96	●	-	💧
Use self-serve car wash instead of automatic	automatic car washes use 300 litres, assume 2x per month	5.7	7.56	●	-	💧💧

### Five Steps to Success!

1. understand your water usage
2. check for leaks
3. do all the low effort/zero cost items
4. review all high impact items and select 1 or 2 that are most relevant or you are best able to accomplish
5. make a triage plan for your garden under extreme drought conditions

Visit [www.environmentlethbridge.ca/water/](http://www.environmentlethbridge.ca/water/) for more details.

Effort		Install Cost		Impact	
●	DIY <1 hr	-	No cost	💧	<5 m3/yr
●●	DIY >1 hr	\$	<\$100	💧💧	<25 m3/yr
●●●	Professional help	\$\$	<\$500	💧💧💧	>25 m3/yr
		\$\$\$	>\$500		