2019 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: **CATHEDRAL WOOD MUTUAL WATER CO., INC.** Report Date: June 29, 2020 4400642

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Type of water source(s) in use: Two springs (surface water intakes) and one well (groundwater)

Name & general location of source(s): North spring, Sugar Valley Road; South spring, Sugarloaf Road; Well, Carl Drive; Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County, California

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: The State Water Board inspected our system/facilities and water supplies in December 2019. Also, Cathedral Wood staff conducted a sanitary survey of the spring watersheds and completed an update to the survey report in January 2020. Both reports are available by calling Bonnie Overgaard at 831-539-3201.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Time and place of board meetings and shareholder/resident meetings are published to shareholders and residents 30 days in advance. The annual meeting usually is scheduled for late February or early March, prior to the end of the fiscal year (March 31).

For more information, contact: Bonnie Overgaard Phone: 831-539-3201

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit
ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	**Highest No. of Detections**	**No. of Months in Violation**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Typical Source of Bacteria**
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In a month) 0	None	1 positive monthly sample[a]	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or *E. coli* (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) 0	None	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or *E. coli* positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
E. coli (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) 0	None	(b)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL

(b) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper Next sampling due in September 2021	**Sample Date**	**No. of Samples Collected**	**90th Percentile Level Detected**	**No. Sites Exceeding AL**	**AL**	**PHG**	**No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Lead (ppb)	08/21/18	5	0	0	15	0.2	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	08/21/18	5	0.085	0	1.3	0.3	None	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	**Sample Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**MCL**	**PHG (MCLG)**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Sodium (ppm) – Springs Well	06/12/19 06/12/19	15 22	13-17 22	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm) – Springs Well	06/12/19 06/12/19	225 260	150-300 260	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	**Sample Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**MCL [MRDL]**	**PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Please see Appendix						

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	**Sample Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**SMCL**	**PHG (MCLG)**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Please see Appendix						

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS					
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	**Sample Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Notification Level**	**Health Effects Language**
Please see Appendix					

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Lead-Specific Language: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. [***Cathedral Wood Mutual Water Co., Inc.***] is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.] If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/lead.

Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	**Explanation**	**Duration**	**Actions Taken to Correct the Violation**	**Health Effects Language**
None				

For Water Systems Providing Groundwater as a Source of Drinking Water

TABLE 7 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	**Total No. of Detections**	**Sample Dates**	**MCL [MRDL]**	**PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
E. coli	(In the year) 0	Monthly	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(In the year) 0	DNA	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(In the year) 0	DNA	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste

Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Groundwater TT

SPECIAL NOTICE OF FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLE
None

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR UNCORRECTED SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES
None

VIOLATION OF GROUNDWATER TT				
TT Violation	**Explanation**	**Duration**	**Actions Taken to Correct the Violation**	**Health Effects Language**
None				

For Systems Providing Surface Water as a Source of Drinking Water

TABLE 8 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES	
Treatment Technique [(a)] (Type of approved filtration technology used)	Direct filtration of the combined flow from the sources. This consists of adding a coagulating polymer to the water, running it through a pipeline flocculator and then a sand filter; finally, chlorine is added and the water is run to storage. Well water receives additional pre-treatment for iron and manganese.
Turbidity Performance Standards [(b)] (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed 1 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed 5 NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	100
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	0.280 in December 2019
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	None

(a) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

(b) Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements.

Summary Information for Violation of a Surface Water TT

VIOLATION OF A SURFACE WATER TT				
TT Violation	**Explanation**	**Duration**	**Actions Taken to Correct the Violation**	**Health Effects Language**
None				

Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption

DNA

Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct [***0***] Level 1 assessment(s). [***0***] Level 1 assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take [***0***] corrective actions and we completed 0] of these actions.

During the past year [***0***] Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. [***0***] Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take [***0***] corrective actions and we completed [***0***] of these actions.

Level 2 Assessment Requirement Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems. We found *E. coli* bacteria, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

We were required to complete a Level 2 assessment because we found *E. coli* in our water system. In addition, we were required to take [***0***] corrective actions and we completed 0] of these actions.

Appendix
Sampling Results for 2019

These tables list the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling of raw, untreated water.
Their presence in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a risk.
Cathedral Wood well water is pre-filtered to remove iron and manganese, and then the well water
as well as the water from the north and south springs is filtered and disinfected (via chlorination).

Regulated Contaminants with PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

CHEMICAL OR CONSTITUENT	SAMPLE DATE	LEVEL DETECTED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT HEALTH EFFECTS
Radioactive Contaminants	Next due in December 2026				
Gross Alpha Particle Activity No. Spring So. Spring Well Radium 226 No. Spring So. Spring Well Radium 228 No. Spring So. Spring Well	12/27/2017 (pCi/L) 12/27/2017 (pCi/L) 12/27/2017 (pCi/L)	 0.216+/-0.682 MDA 1.04 0.491+/-0.886 MDA 1.27 0.140+/-0.751 MDA 1.19 0.032+/-0.078 MDA 0.304 0.145+/-0.114 MDA 0.304 0.000+/-0.063 MDA 0.304 0.403+/-0.586 MDA 0.400 0.063+/-0.517 MDA 0.505 0.000+/-0.507 MDA 0.400	15 5 (Ra-226 and Ra-228 Combined)	(0) (0.05) (0.019)	Decay/erosion of natural deposits. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters or Ra-226 or Ra-228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Inorganic Contaminants					
Aluminum (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 250 ND ND	1000	600	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes. Some people who drink water containing aluminum in excess of the MCL over many years may experience short-term gastrointestinal tract effects.
***Arsenic** (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring **Well** Quarterly	6/12/2019 1/28, 4/3, 7/15, 10/15	 ND ND 15 Quarterly results ranged from 2.1 – 3.8	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Barium (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 ND ND 210	1000	2000	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits. Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience an increase in blood pressure.
Chromium (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 ND ND 1.4	50	(100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits. Some people who use water containing chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience allergic dermatitis.
Fluoride (ppm) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 0.12 0.16 0.12	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth (Cathedral Wood does not add); discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the federal MCL of 4 ppm over many years may get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the state MCL of 2 ppm may get mottled teeth.
Lead (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 5.7 ND ND	AL = 15	0.2	If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level may experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children may show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years may develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Cathedral Wood is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your

Lead, continued.					water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/lead.
Nitrate (ppm) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 0.15 ND ND	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate level can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.

Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs): TTHMs and HAA5s (Also Primary Drinking Water Standards)

This sampling is done on treated water sampled at the last house in the distribution system: 564 Sugarloaf Road.

Ever since we started monitoring DBPs, the TTHMs have bounced up and down, sometimes to levels above the MCL. Several years ago the County of Santa Cruz asked us to develop a plan to reduce our TTHM levels; HAA5s have not been as much of a problem. Initially we added ventilation to the two potable storage tanks, and while that was successful at reducing the DBPs, it did not reduce them consistently below the MCLs. Consequently, we implemented stage two of the plan, adding an aeration system to the larger potable storage tank, and so far the results have shown significant reduction in these contaminants, consistently below the regulation maximums. Consequently, the Water Board has given us permission to resume annual, rather than quarterly, sampling. The next samples are due in September 2020.

CONSTITUENT	SAMPLE DATE	LEVEL DETECTED	MCL	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER	HEALTH EFFECTS
TTHMs (ppb) (Total Trihalomethanes)	01/30/2018 04/18/2018 07/24/2018 10/29/2018 01/28/2019 04/03/2019 07/09/2019 10/08/2019	**93** 48 **92** 43 40 36 40 49	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	Some people who drink water containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
HAA5s (ppb) (Haloacetic Acids)	01/30/2018 04/18/2018 07/24/2018 10/29/2018 01/28/2019 04/03/2019 07/09/2019 10/08/2019	55 27 45 40 38 35 28 34	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Regulated Contaminants with SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.

CHEMICAL OR CONSTITUENT	SAMPLE DATE	LEVEL DETECTED	MCL (MRDL)	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT HEALTH EFFECTS
Chloride (ppm) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 15 12 23	500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 9 ND ND	15	Naturally-occurring organic materials
***Iron** (ppb) **No. Spring** So. Spring **Well**	6/12/2019	 **330** 96 **19000**	300	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

***Manganese** (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring **Well**	6/12/2019	 21 ND **480**	50	Leaching from natural deposits. Manganese exposures resulted in neurological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in adverse effects to the nervous system.
Specific Conductance No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019 (uS/cm)	 360 550 560	1600	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 36 100 96	500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 270 370 380	1000	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 5.1 1.0 100	5	Soil runoff. Turbidity refers to suspended particles or sediment in the water. It is important because it can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity has no health effects but may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms including bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. The results here are for untreated source water; our treated water meets all federal and state requirements for turbidity, as noted earlier in this report.
Zinc (ppb) No. Spring So. Spring Well	6/12/2019	 61 ND ND	5000	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

Source Water Protection Tips for Consumers

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect this community's drinking water sourcse in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water sources.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use the US EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.

Water Conservation Tips for Consumers

Did you know that the average US household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature!

- Take short showers – a 5 minutes shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving – and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for leaks, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your children about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next year's water assessment!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.