

# TODD CREEK VILLAGE

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

TODD CREEK  
VILLAGE

*Proud to be your area water provider*

## Water Facts: Helpful Info About Water Flow Rates and Usage

We've been receiving a lot of questions about water usage and water rates. We want to assure you that we are listening and are always looking for ways to improve efficiency and help keep costs as low as possible so we can pass the savings on to you. That said, we thought it might be helpful to share information with you about usage and flow rates since ultimately, how much water is used is a critical factor in your water bill.

### **Did You Know:**

Estimates vary, but according to studies by the USGS ([usgs.gov](http://usgs.gov)) and American Waterworks Association ([awwa.org](http://awwa.org)), a household uses an average of 80-100 gallons of water per person per day for in-home uses. The largest percentage of that usage (30% on average) is from flushing the toilet, followed closely by showers and baths. Luckily, between the demands caused by municipal regulations and consumer interests in water conservation, availability of more efficient fixtures has steadily increased.

Toilets manufactured prior to the 1980s used five gallons of water or more per flush, while high-efficiency toilets manufactured today use a maximum of 1.6 and as little as 1.28 gallons per flush (1.1 gallons for dual flush toilets on the low-flush option). If there isn't a label on the inside wall of the tank or the underside of the tank lid, there is a pretty simple way to find out the usage of your toilet.

1. Turn the water supply to your toilet off. (Note: if you cannot turn the valve or do not have access to it simply prevent the toilet from refilling by holding up the float device in your tank.)
2. Measure the length (left to right) of the tank in inches.
3. Measure the width (front to back) of the tank in inches.
4. Measure the full water level in the toilet tank in inches (depth 1).
5. Flush the toilet and measure the drop at the lowest level (depth 2).
6. Subtract depth 2 from depth 1. This will give you the "drop" measurement.
7. Multiply the length times the width times the "drop" measurement number you noted for Step No. 6 to determine the volume of cubic inches of water used per flush.
8. Divide the volume by 231 to get the number of gallons per flush.

*Example to help you calculate the gallons per flush of your toilet*

Step 2 – Length: 17.5

Step 3 – Width: 7

Step 4 – Full level: 6

Step 5 – Low level: 3.5

Step 6 – 6 minus 3.5 = 2.5

Step 7 –  $17.5 \times 7 \times 2.5 = 306.25$

Step 8 –  $306.25$  divided by  $231 = 1.32$

If your toilet is using more than the 1.6 gallons per flush it's probably time to upgrade. Likewise, if you haven't replaced your showerhead in a while, it's probably worth looking into a more efficient, and possibly feature rich, option. And who knows, it might even make for a more enjoyable shower experience!

For information about your water quality and much more, be sure to check the FAQ section of our website.

**TRANSPARENCY NOTICE:** Board Meetings are held every 2nd Thursday at 2:00 pm at the Todd Creek Golf Club, 8455 Heritage Dr, Thornton, CO 80602. The public is always welcome.



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