

TODD CREEK VILLAGE

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

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VILLAGE

Proud to be your area water provider

Water Facts: Helpful Info About Water Usage and Ways to Save

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. We covered toilets in part one, so let's talk dishwashers versus handwashing...

Did You Know:

It may seem counterintuitive since it seems like dishwashers are constantly spraying water throughout the cycle, but a newer one does use much less water than hand washing the equivalent amount of dirty dishes. Getting those dishes clean in the sink can use up to 27 gallons of water per load while an Energy Star certified dishwasher can use as little as 3 gallons per load, according to a report by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). In fact, an Energy Star certified dishwasher can save you almost 5,000 gallons of water per year when used as recommended. So what does that look like and how does it save on water and energy use?



In 2013, new standards were put in place that required dishwashers to use a maximum of five gallons of water per load, cutting in half the prior ten gallon allowance on dishwashers built before 1994. In addition to the water savings, there is the added benefit of energy savings because newer dishwashers contain a heating element that heats the water it uses more quickly and efficiently than using water from the faucet heated via your hot water heater. So overall, an Energy Star certified dishwasher can use less than half the energy of washing dishes by hand. Of course, it's important to remember that a dishwasher uses the same amount of water for a full load as it does for a small load, so go ahead and play dish tetris and maximize that dishwasher load capacity.

Additionally, experts recommend that you forego the pre-rinse because it really doesn't offer enough impact to make it worth the water usage. Because these savings are only applicable to full loads, it's also worth noting that if you don't generate enough dirty dishes to fill the dishwasher every day and are concerned about food drying and sticking to your dishes, experts recommend using the "rinse and hold" feature if your dishwasher has one.

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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