



# Save water now to lower your bill all year long.

## Everyone wants to save money!

Conserving water now saves money later because Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) uses winter months average billing to determine your sewer charges for the entire year.

Water bills reflect the costs of cleaning and delivering safe, high-quality drinking water to Dallas homes. Sewer charges reflect the costs of collecting wastewater, transporting it to a wastewater treatment plant, cleaning the water to almost drinking quality, and then releasing it to the Trinity River.

DWU uses meters to measure water usage, but because it is not cost effective to meter sewer use, your sewer charge is estimated. To estimate sewer use, DWU averages the metered water used in December, January, February and March. These months are the best to average because less water is used outdoors in winter, so most of the water used during these months will go into the sewer system.

This winter months average will be the basis of your sewer charge for the whole year. However, in any month of the year if your actual water use is less than your winter months average, the sewer bill is based on the actual water use for that month.

## There are many ways to save water

One significant way is to replace old toilets. The American Water Works Association estimates that toilets account for almost 30 percent of water used indoors. If your toilets were installed prior to January 1, 1994 you may be eligible for a voucher to redeem up to two free toilets.

## Watering outdoors in winter

In winter most landscapes go dormant, which means their water needs decrease significantly. Most landscapes, including our lawns, need only one inch of water per month during the winter. So if we have rain in a given month, you may not need to water at all.

Automatic irrigation controllers are great time savers, and if used properly can efficiently water your landscape. But because turf needs so much less water in winter, irrigation controllers can be turned to manual operation for the season. If you choose to keep your controller on automatic during the winter, be sure to adjust it to its winter setting.

If you need help adjusting your controller, give us a call - one of our licensed irrigators would be happy to give your system a seasonal check-up and help you get your system ready for winter.

## We're here to help!

To apply for our free toilet program or schedule an irrigation check up, visit us at [SaveDallasWater.com](http://SaveDallasWater.com) or call us at 214-670-3155. Find other water saving tips at [SaveDallasWater.com](http://SaveDallasWater.com).