

### 2022 Water Conservation Calendars are here!

Calendars feature artwork submitted by Polk students K-12, see the expressive thoughts of the next

generation of water-savers. Check in at our main office or stop by the Visit Central Florida Visitor Center, 101 Adventure Ct, Davenport to pick up your free calendars.

The art contest will open again for Polk students in grades K-12 early in 2022 for the 2023 calendar.

### We're Working for You

Our easily accessible fresh water supply is quickly dwindling. To continue providing clean, safe water to you, and across Central Florida, the county is seeking new sources of water or alternative water supplies (AWS). **The cheapest AWS supply is saving the water we already have.** By saving water, you not only save yourself money now, but also help to defray the cost of finding and developing AWS for the future.

Learn the details on Polk's latest project concerning AWS at [www.polk-county.net/utilities/direct-potable-reuse-pilot](http://www.polk-county.net/utilities/direct-potable-reuse-pilot).

#### Did you know?

The Central Florida Water Initiative is a water supply planning effort that covers five counties including Polk, three water management districts, numerous water utilities and several state agencies. All are working together to ensure your safe drinking water supply for years to come. Find the latest information at [CFWIWater.com](http://CFWIWater.com).

#### High volume water users?

See our water efficiency programs to save.

### Water Efficiency Programs

Leaks, over watering and antiquated fixtures can account for unnecessary water use and cost. See if any of the following programs can help you save in more one ways than one:

#### Free Indoor Water Conservation Kit

Kit includes directions, one low-flow, showerhead, three faucet aerators, toilet leak detector tabs and plumbing tape.

#### Free Landscape & Irrigation Evaluation

Available to our high-volume water users including single and multi-family homes and commercial businesses, averaging more than 14,000 gallons per month.

#### WaterSense™ Toilet Rebate Program

Upgrade your porcelain throne to an EPA certified toilet and receive up to a \$100 rebate, and reduce the amount of water you use.

#### Free Wireless Rain Sensor

Polk County customers with an automatic irrigation system are eligible for a free wireless rain sensor.

#### WaterSense™ Smart Irrigation Controller Rebate

Smart irrigation controllers have built-in water saving features. Those meeting all the rebate qualifications can receive up to a maximum of \$200.

Save Water  
Save Money



Scan QR code or visit [polk-county.net/utilities/water-conservation](http://polk-county.net/utilities/water-conservation)

## Money Down the Drain Pain

Often times, we don't consider what happens to all that stuff we allow down the kitchen sink or flush down the toilet after it leaves our sight. But we should. There can be a high cost in repairing damage from overflow or worse, you could have sewage running down your community street.

Here are a few reminders to keep everything flowing:

- Besides toilet paper, only flush "potty" down the potty.
- Do not flush paper towels, tissues, table scraps, feminine products, diapers and flushable wipes (even if they say flushable) should be put in the garbage.

The aforementioned items are not made to break down. Instead, they will combine with fats, oils, grease (F.O.G.) and hair to clog up the sewer system and likely cause an overflow. Don't take a chance on watching your sewage run down the street.



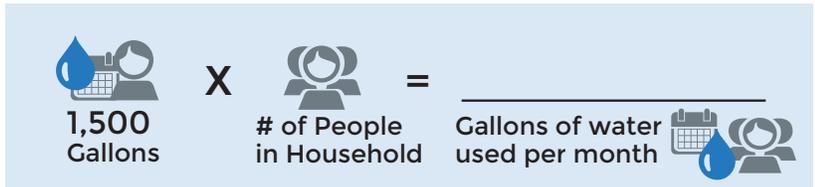
## Reduce Use

### Outdoor Suggestions to Keep the Meter in Check

- Choose plants and grass that will thrive in your location, whether sand, swamp, sun or shade.
- If you irrigate, at least 50 percent of your water is going on the lawn and landscape. Of that 50 percent, half can be lost to wind and evaporation.
- Do not water in the rain.
- Don't water your streets and sidewalks, your driveway and road will not grow.
- Always check for broken sprinkler heads.

Unless you have Florida-Friendly grass and plantings, your yard requires more water than it should for our area.

### Calculate Your Monthly Water Use



## Water Bill Basics: Why does water cost so much?

Whether or not you're new to the county, there are a few things you should know about your Polk water bill.

Base charges cover the monthly cost to pump, treat, sanitize, test and deliver water or wastewater services to your home.

Polk County Utilities is required by water use permits to charge an inclining block rate (or conservation rate) for higher users, so your water bill can range from \$12.72 for 1,000 gallons to over \$1,300 for 42,000 gallons or more. Basically, the more water you use, the more expensive water becomes.

