

School-Based Education

The TWD's school-based education efforts focus on educating and informing students and teachers about water resources and conservation as well as fostering positive attitudes about long-term water conservation.

Presentations

The TWD provides speakers on water-related topics for all student groups. Presentations include such topics as water-wise landscapes, Tampa's water supply, water quality, water efficiency devices, alternative water sources and the City's water conservation and education programs.

Science Fair Awards

The TWD recognizes one outstanding Science Fair project at the elementary, middle and high school levels with the Drinking Water Award. Winning students receive a savings bond, certificate and conservation kit.

Teacher Workshops

TWD staff members offer learning activities through Water Resources and Conservation Teacher Workshops to educate and inform teachers and increase awareness of water conservation issues at every grade level.

Water Resources PSA Project

Students investigate local water resource issues and develop public service announcement (PSA) scripts and storyboards, which are produced and aired on CTTV, Channel 15.



Tampa Water Department

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TampaGov.net/water



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Tampa Water Department

Conservation Education

Programs Inform, Educate and
Recognize Efforts

www.TampaGov.net/SaveWater

Education is the key to fostering sustainable behaviors and practices. Numerous projects are offered by the Tampa Water Department (TWD) to educate and inform Tampa residents about water resources and the importance of water conservation.

Public Education

The TWD offers a variety of water conservation programs and services to help our customers ensure their water use is as efficient as possible. Outlined here are a few of our ongoing conservation programs that deserve special attention.

Industrial, Commercial, & Institutional Efficiency Survey

The TWD provides water use efficiency surveys for high-consumption non-residential users to help reduce potable water consumption. Conservation recommendations, including payback periods based on water and sewer savings, are suggested after visiting each facility and determining how and where water can be saved. Each detailed survey also includes information about the facility's annual water use and billing history, water use allocation and applicable rebate programs.

Plumbing Retrofit Kits

Retrofitting your home – replacing old plumbing fixtures with water-saving ones – is a simple way to save water. Replacing showerheads and faucet aerators with new, low-flow models can often save several gallons per minute (gpm). The free showerheads and faucet aerators available from the TWD use less than 2.5 gpm. Most toilet flappers should be replaced annually. Contact the TWD to receive free toilet leak detection tablets and instructions on selecting and replacing your toilet flapper.

Rain Barrel Workshops

TWD customers are eligible to receive a free rain barrel when attending a Rain Barrel Workshop offered by the Hillsborough County Extension Service Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program. Participants will learn how to properly construct, install and use a rain barrel. Using rainwater in place of the City's potable (drinking) water helps promote sustainable use of Tampa's water resources. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. To register for a Rain Barrel Workshop and receive your free rain barrel, please call (813) 744-5519, ext. 144, or visit http://hillsborough_fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/RainBarrels.html.

Sensible Sprinkling Irrigation Evaluations

TWD customers using potable (drinking) water for irrigation may receive a free evaluation of their operational in-ground irrigation system. A certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor will make an on-site visit to evaluate watering schedules, rain sensor settings and design criteria, such as sprinkler head spacing or application uniformity. Once the evaluation is complete, the TWD will provide a detailed written report that includes a seasonal watering schedule for each zone and recommendations to improve efficiency and reduce water use.

If a rain sensor is not present at the time of the evaluation, a free rain sensor will be installed at no cost to the homeowner. Rain sensors, required on automatic control systems by Tampa City Code, help reduce unnecessary watering by turning off an automatic irrigation system once the landscape receives the same amount of rainfall the system would apply in one cycle. Limited funding is also available to provide rebates for implementing the recommendations provided in the evaluation report, such as retrofitting the system with drip or micro-irrigation. Contact the TWD at (813) 274-8121 to see if you qualify.

Speakers Bureau

The TWD provides speakers on water-related topics for meetings, conferences, and community groups. Presentations include information about water-wise landscapes, water conservation incentives, Tampa's water supply, water quality, water efficiency devices and the City's water conservation and water conservation education programs.

Additional Resources

The TWD offers limited supplies of Water Conservation Kits, brochures and other print resources about water conservation and water quality. For additional information please call (813) 274-8121, or visit the Tampa Water Department's Conservation Education Web site at TampaGov.net/SaveWater.