

HOW CAN OAKLAND RESIDENTS IMPROVE WATER EFFICIENCY?



WATER EFFICIENCY

Climate change impacts will affect the availability of water resources for Oakland residents

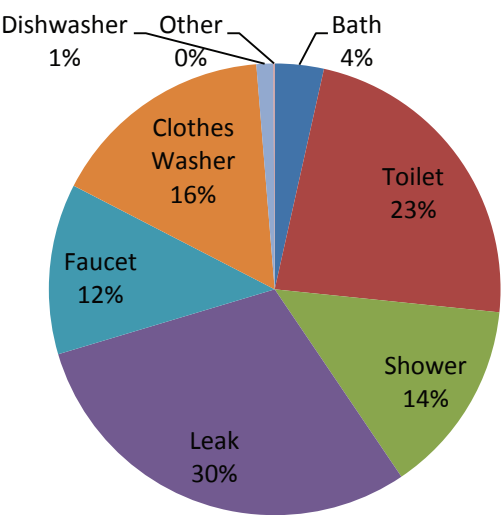
READ MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN SAVE WATER AND MONEY



This factsheet was made possible with the support from The San Francisco Foundation

How We Use Our Water

Residential Indoor Water Use



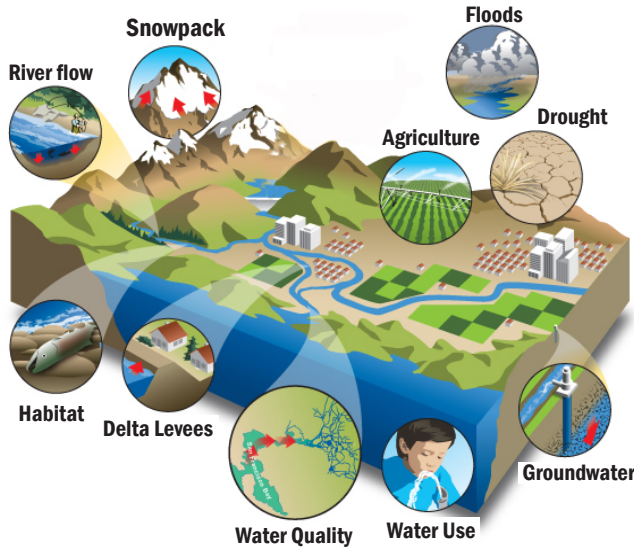
Source: EBMUD, 2008

How Does Climate Change Affect Water Resources?

Climate change will accelerate and intensify the water cycle, altering water availability, timing, quality, and demand. In particular, models project:

- Less rain and snow
- More intense rainfall events during the winter
- More precipitation will fall as rain rather than snow, reducing the snowpack
- Earlier snowmelt, increasing flows in rivers and streams during the winter/spring but reducing flows in the summer/fall
- More frequent and intense droughts
- Saltwater intrusion in groundwater and bays due to rising sea levels

Fold out this factsheet and learn more about what you can do to save water



Source: California Department of Water Resources

WHO DO I CALL IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY?

Life Threatening call 911

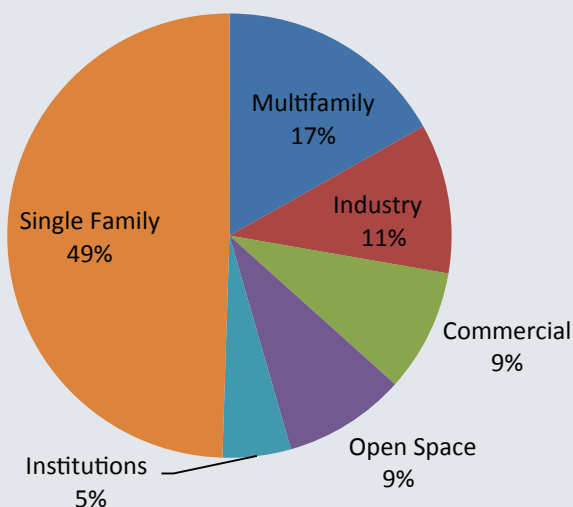
Other Emergency Contacts

Alameda County Office of Emergency Services	925.803.7800
Alameda County Poison Control	1800.523.2222
American Red Cross	510.595.4400
City of Oakland Fire Dispatch	510.444.1616
City of Oakland Police Dispatch	510.777.3211
City of Oakland Office of Emergency Services	510.238.3938
EBMUD	510.835.3000
PG&E	1800.743.5000
National Response Center (Toxic Spills)	1800.424.8802

LOCAL RESOURCES

- Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**
(510) 670-5480
- East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)**
Provides free water saving devices and rebates
1-866-403-2683
- Stopwaste.org**
Bay-Friendly Gardening Program
- Water-Energy Calculator**
<http://wecalc.org>
- Water Saver Home**
<http://www.h2ouse.net/>
- Wholly H2O - Water conservation and reuse non-profit**
<http://www.whollyh2o.org/>
- Look for the WaterSense label when looking for water efficient fixtures**

How Our Community Uses Water



Source: EBMUD, 2008

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO SAVE WATER?

Cost-effective water and money saving tips

- 1. Check for and repair leaks!**
Check and repair leaks in fixtures both indoors and outdoors, especially toilets, faucets, showerheads, and sprinkler systems.
- 2. Install a new, water-efficient showerhead**
Efficient showerheads are inexpensive and can save water, energy, and money. EBMUD often has free giveaways.
- 3. Replace your old, water-wasting toilet**
Toilets account for about 30% of your household water use. But while old, wasteful toilets use up to 6-7 gallons per flush, newer, more efficient toilets use 1.3 gallons per flush or less.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO SAVE WATER?

For Homeowners

- 4. Install a faucet aerator and turn-off the faucet when shaving and brushing your teeth.**
These simple devices reduce the flow from your faucet, saving water, energy, and money. You can get free aerators at EBMUD.
- 5. Replace part of your lawn with native plants or other low water-use plants.**
Natives are accustomed to dry weather and require less maintenance.



6. Look for the WaterSense label!

The EPA has developed a label for water-efficient appliances and fixtures that perform well. Look for the new WaterSense label on all of your water-using appliances and fixtures.

ADAPTATION STRATEGIES THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT

- 1. Support water conservation and efficiency efforts**
- 2. Develop open space plans that encourage water conservation by planting native species and low water use plants**
- 2. Integrate water use with land use policies**
- 4. Create a portfolio of water sources which include water storage, rain water harvesting, and recycled water strategies**

WHAT THE CITY OF OAKLAND CAN DO

- 1. Use water efficient fixtures and appliances in City buildings and buildings that are managed by the City, like low-income housing**
- 2. Outreach to tenants about rebates and the free water saving devices such as aerators and shower heads available to them**
- 3. Encourage the City and developers to landscape with native species and other low water use plants**
- 4. Develop an affordability program with EBMUD by providing rebates and incentives to low-income households between EBMUD and the City**

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY

- 1. Establish systems of neighborhood leaders who are trained and charged with outreaching to local residents**
- 2. Volunteer and support local organizations that work towards water efficiency and pollution prevention**
- 3. Educate residents about saving water, free water saving devices provided by EBMUD, and Oakland's rainwater barrel program**

