



Find out more about water conservation at www.epa.gov/watersense



Small changes made by Chicagoans can have a tremendous impact on the sustainability of our water supply, such as:

- ◆ **Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving.** This can save over 500 gallons per month per person.
- ◆ **Install high-efficiency, low-flow toilets.** Toilets alone consume 26% of household water consumption. A leaky toilet wastes 200 gallons of water per day.
- ◆ **Install high-efficiency washing machines.** This can save energy and water consumption.
- ◆ **Fill the sink with dishwater instead of washing dishes with an open tap.** This saves 25 gallons per wash.
- ◆ **If you own a dishwasher, wait until you have a full load to run it.** Dishwashers typically use half the energy, one-sixth the water, and less soap than washing dishes in the sink.
- ◆ **Garden with plants that are native to Chicago.** This can reduce outdoor water use by 20-50%.
- ◆ **Use rain barrels to capture rainwater** for watering lawns and gardens.
- ◆ **Use a timer or a rain sensor to monitor lawn irrigation:** Sprinkler systems use thousands of gallons of water per cycle. Installing a timer or rain sensor will save money and water by preventing needless watering.

WATER
OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE

Lake Michigan has **lost** almost **32 trillion** gallons of water—the equivalent of over **45 million** Olympic-sized swimming pools of water—over the past decade. Our region could face **water shortages by 2050** if we fail to take **decisive action.**

More than half of water consumption in Chicago occurs within homes.

More than 5.4 million people, 44% of the population of the State of Illinois, depend on the Chicago Department of Water Management to provide a reliable supply of drinking water from Lake Michigan.

"I thought it was going to be a difficult and drawn out process. I wasn't even sure it would save me money, but it was easy, quick and painless. Now I pay less and I check the meter frequently to be mindful of water waste."

—Dan, Lawndale

Volunteer for a meter today to save water and money!

Please go to www.metersave.org or call 311, or call 312-744-4H2O



What is **MeterSave?**

SAVE WATER SAVE MONEY



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley
Mayor



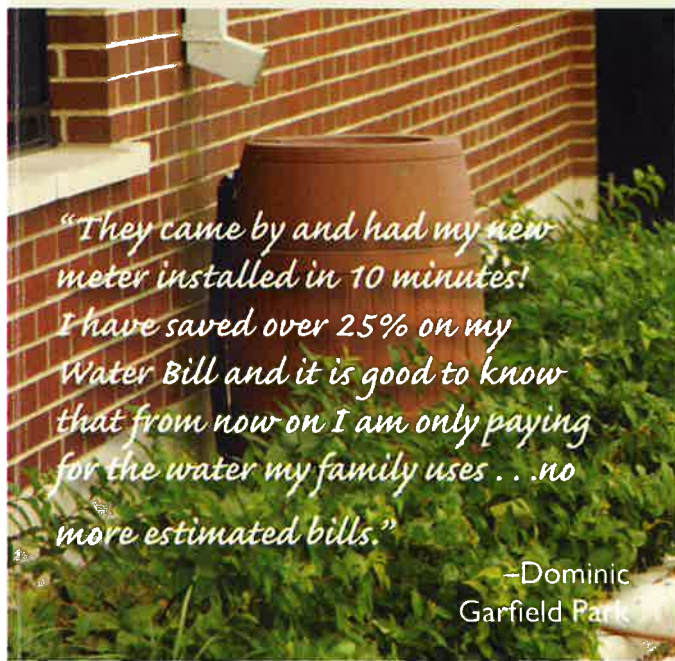
Department of
Water Management
John F. Spatz Jr.
Commissioner

Homeowner Incentives

Non-metered homeowners participating in MeterSave are eligible for the following:

- ◆ A 7-year guarantee that the home water bill will be no higher than it would have if the meter had not been installed. Bill will not exceed the assessed rate for that year.
- ◆ Choice of one of the following (while supplies last):
 1. Rain barrel
 2. Water meter monitor (a refrigerator magnet that shows water usage)
 3. Outdoor water conservation kit, or
 4. Indoor water conservation kit

And, two of the numbered incentives if a whole block volunteers!



"They came by and had my new meter installed in 10 minutes! I have saved over 25% on my Water Bill and it is good to know that from now on I am only paying for the water my family uses... no more estimated bills."

—Dominic
Garfield Park

Frequently Asked Questions

How and when do I sign up?

Interested non-metered single family and two-flat homeowners may visit www.metersave.org, call 311, or call 312-744-4H2O. Please have your 12-digit account number ready. Space is limited based on funding availability and the number of volunteers.

What will it cost to participate?

The City of Chicago Department of Water Management will install a water meter complete with the automatic meter reading (AMR) technology in your home **FREE** of charge.

AMR technology allows readings to be transmitted via wireless radio technology to Water Management vehicles as they drive by, eliminating the need for readings to take place inside the home. Bills will be issued bi-monthly and reflect only the actual amount of water used.

Do I have to be current on my water bill?

Yes. Homeowners must be current on payment plan and water bill to participate in this limited time offer of a 7-year guarantee.

For payment plan information call 312-744-4H20 (4426).

When can I have a meter installed?

Online meter installation scheduling is available at www.metersave.org. Otherwise, Water Management will contact you to schedule a time for meter installation.

"The installation of the meter I volunteered for was no problem at all, and the installers checked for any evidence of leaks in the house, to make sure I wouldn't be paying for water I didn't intend to use. My garden and fish pond continued to thrive; the money I have saved will be used towards this summer's plantings."

—Charlene
Southwest Ravenswood
Single Homeowner



This is the cover plate for the AMR transmitter that is mounted on the outside of the building. It is approximately 5 1/2 inches by 4 1/2 inches.



This is a water meter and register connected to an AMR transmitter by a thin wire. The meter and register are installed on the inside of the building.

"I volunteered for a meter and my bill has gone down over 40%. Thank you!"

— Marista
Garfield Ridge, Single Homeowner

What is MeterSave?

SAVE WATER SAVE MONEY!

MeterSave is a program to encourage Chicago homeowners to voluntarily install meters to monitor water usage. Meters allow single family and two-flat homeowners to pay for only the water actually used, encouraging efforts to save water and money while protecting one of our most precious natural resources.

Water charges in non-metered homes are tied to factors such as building size, lot size and number of plumbing fixtures. Metered homes are billed according to actual use.

This means that with minimal effort, participating homeowners could save money on their water bills.