



# Water Resources in Chicago

## Water Conservation and Storm Water Management

- **City of Chicago Resources.** Available [here](#) or by request from your project liaison. This can be found by visiting [cityofchicago.org](http://cityofchicago.org) and clicking on “Environment” under the “Initiatives and Programs” dropdown. Under “Water” you’ll find:
  - Sustainable Backyard Program – Info on rebates for trees, native plants, compost bins, and rain barrels.
  - Rain Barrels - Discover what a rain barrel is and how you can use them in your backyard. Learn how to make your own rain barrel.
  - Water Conservation Tips- Look for ways to conserve water in and around your home and place of work.
  - And More!
- **City of Chicago Department of Water Management.** <http://www.cityofchicago.org/watermanagement>.
- **H2Ouse.** A comprehensive website about saving water, from the California Urban Water Conservation Council <http://www.h2ouse.org/>
- **Water Conservation Tips.** From Mono Lake, California: <http://www.monolake.org/about/waterconservation>

## Lake Michigan

- **Alliance for the Great Lakes.** <http://www.greatlakes.org/>. One of C3’s partners, the Alliance works to conserve and restore the world’s largest freshwater resource through policy, education and local efforts.
- **Great Lakes Information Network.** <http://www.great-lakes.net/>. An intergovernmental partnership that provides one place online for people to find information relating to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region of North America.
- **The Great Lakes: An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book.** From the EPA. Available at <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/atlas/>.
- **Great Lakes Regional Collaboration.** <http://www.glrc.us/>. The Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) is a wide-ranging, cooperative effort to design and implement a strategy for the restoration, protection and sustainable use of the Great Lakes.

## Chicago River

- **Friends of the Chicago River.** <http://chicagoriver.org>. A C3 partner dedicated to restoring the river’s health.
- **Chicago River.** Complete history of the Chicago River from the online *Encyclopedia of Chicago*: <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/263.html>

### **Top 10 Indoor Water Conservation Tips**

1. Fix leaky faucets and toilets.
2. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl, you have a leak.
3. Make sure the toilet flapper does not stick open after flushing.
4. Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when full.
5. Limit your shower to less than five minutes.
6. Install low-volume toilets. Or, if your toilet was installed prior to 1980, place a bottle filled with water in your toilet tank.
7. Install a low-flow showerhead.
8. Turn the water off while brushing your teeth or shaving.
9. Use leftover drinking water to water your houseplants.
10. Rinse dishes in a sink-full instead of with the tap. Use a dishwasher if you have one, which actually uses less water than washing dishes by hand.

### **Top 5 Outdoor Water Conservation Tips**

1. Use a rain barrel to water your plants.
2. Sweep your sidewalk instead of using a hose.
3. Plant native plants that require less water than traditional landscaping.
4. Water your lawn less frequently, only during dry spells and in the early morning.
5. When washing your car, use a bucket and sponge, or take it to a car-wash that recycles their water.