












# Be a WATER DETECTIVE

Investigate your water use in and around your home.

## Collect Data on Your Water Use

Throughout the day, observe all the ways you use water at home. Think about and document ways you can reduce usage during these activities.

Activity	Frequency (Tally marks)	Ways to Reduce Usage (Describe ways you can save water for this activity)
 <b>FLUSHING</b>		<i>(example: replace with a water efficient toilet)</i>
<b>WASHING HANDS</b> 		
 <b>BRUSHING TEETH</b>		
<b>BATHING</b> 		
 <b>DRINKING WATER</b>		
<b>CLEANING</b> 		
 <b>OUTDOOR WATERING</b>		
<b>COOKING</b> 		
 <b>WASHING DISHES</b>		

## Investigate Your Watershed

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a larger body of water.

Act like a spy and follow the path of water that flows over your yard and local streets. Find out where it goes and clean up any trash you find along the way!

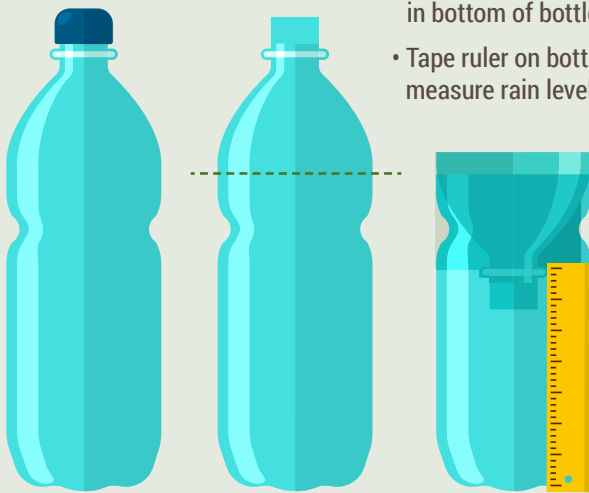


## Look For Clues That Your Lawn Needs Water

It is important to only water your grass when needed. A clue that your lawn needs watering is to look for footsteps. As you walk over the grass, your footsteps should readily disappear; if they don't, it may be time to water. Most lawns only need 1 to 2 inches of water per week.

### Make a Rain Gauge

- Cut off top of bottle
- Insert top upside down in bottom of bottle
- Tape ruler on bottle to measure rain level



## Detect Water Leaks

All good detectives must be observant to detect water leaks throughout your home:

- Listen for dripping water from faucets
- Look for water around your pipes
- Check for signs of moisture or mold on your walls, ceilings, or floors

### Test Your Toilet

Put a few drops of food coloring into the tank at the back of your toilet and let it sit for 10 minutes. *If the dye color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak!*



Now that you have proven your skills as a water detective, make a commitment to water conservation by taking the **My Drop Counts Pledge** at [mydropcounts.org](http://mydropcounts.org)

