



BE RESOURCEFUL.
DO IT YOURSELF.

LOW-FLOW SHOWERHEADS AND AERATORS

One of the easiest, cheapest, and most effective ways of reducing your home's water consumption is by installing low-flow showerheads and sink aerators. Showering is one of the leading ways we use water and accounts for nearly 17%, or 30 gallons per day, of residential indoor water use. Dish washing and water used at the sink consumes an additional 8%, or 15 gallons of water per day.

Today's low-flow showerheads and sink aerators are high-performance and water-efficient. Replacing your inefficient showerheads and aerators with water-efficient ones will save you money by reducing your overall household water consumption and the energy required to heat the hot water. Your household could save nearly 7,500 gallons of water per year by installing low-flow showerheads and sink aerators!

Estimated Savings Break-down:

Water Savings/Year: 7,500 gallons

Initial Cost: \$50 for 1 showerhead
and 3 aerators

DIY Labor: 2 hours

Cost savings/year: \$180

10 year savings: \$1,800

Low-flow showerhead with shut-off button

Shut-off button (convenient for shutting off water temporarily while soaping or shampooing).



Installing a Low-flow Showerhead:

1. Unscrew old showerhead (turn counter clock-wise).
2. Clean shower arm threads and apply Teflon sealing tape, wrapping the tape two times around the shower arm's thread
3. Hand-tighten the new, low-flow showerhead on to the shower arm. Do not over tighten.
4. Run water and test for watertight fit. If it leaks, gently tighten with a wrench and use a cloth to protect the finish.

Many low-flow showerheads come with a shut-off button to reduce water use even more. When the button is pressed in, water flow reduces to a trickle, saving water while you shampoo or soap up.

Cleaning Your Showerhead

Over time, your showerhead may become clogged with mineral deposits. Instead of buying a new one or using harsh chemicals, use vinegar to clean your showerhead.

1. Fill a saucepan with enough distilled vinegar to fully submerge the showerhead.
2. Place the showerhead in the saucepan and simmer on the stove for a few minutes. Be sure to keep a close eye on your showerhead as the time needed to remove the buildup will vary. Do not boil or heat on high as the showerhead may melt. Also make sure it is floating, not resting on the bottom of the pan.
3. Remove the showerhead from the saucepan and rinse it in clean water once most of the buildup has come off.
4. As an alternative, your showerhead can be soaked overnight in unheated distilled vinegar to remove mineral buildup.



Installing a Sink Aerator:

1. Unscrew old faucet attachment. You may need to use a wrench.
2. For inside-threaded faucets, install as is.
3. For outside-threaded faucets, first remove top washer to expose inside threads and install.
4. Hand-tighten the aerator. Do not over tighten.
5. Run water and test for a watertight fit. If it leaks, gently tighten with a wrench and use a cloth to protect the finish.

Materials are covered by manufacturers' warranties only. Please follow manufacturers' instructions for the use of any particular product. The City of Flagstaff is not liable for any damages, injury, or expense incurred in connection with this program.

