



The average person in Canada uses *343 litres* of water at home
every day!!

That's as much liquid as is in *966 cans* of pop!

You can conserve and protect water by doing the following:

- T Always turn off taps tightly so they don't drip.
- T Keep a bottle of drinking water in the fridge rather than running the tap to get cold water every time you want a drink.
- T When brushing your teeth, turn off the water while you are brushing, and just turn it on again to rinse.
- T Short showers are best, but if you prefer, take shallower baths.
- T Never flush garbage of any kind down the toilet. Not only does this waste water by flushing needlessly, but it can cause problems at treatment plants or with septic systems.
- T Place a bottle filled with water or a toilet insert into the tank of your toilet. This will conserve water every time the toilet is flushed!
- T Only wash clothes when they are dirty - and make sure you do a full load.
- T Use water collected in a rain barrel to water plants, wash the car, pets, windows; use for numerous yard projects as well, for example to top-up ponds.
- T Leave grass clippings on your lawn instead of raking them. This helps your lawn conserve moisture. Also, let your lawn grow a little longer (5-8 centimetres or 2-3 inches), to help it hold water better.
- T Never apply pesticides or fertilizers to your lawn where they may run off into a body of water. Better yet, try organic gardening and lawn care.
- T Never pour any chemicals into storm sewers - these go right into the river.
- T Spread sand rather than salt on sidewalks and driveways to increase traction on winter ice.
- T Don't litter - garbage is often washed directly into the river. And never throw garbage into the river itself.
- T Volunteer to help with a river or creek clean-up.
- T When boating, make sure that you do not transport water or bait from one body of water to another. Transported water can carry harmful invasive species like zebra mussels.
- T Never release balloons outside. They can kill fish and marine mammals when they land in the water and are eaten.
- T Plant trees and other plants. They help reduce soil erosion and run-off and produce oxygen through photosynthesis. Choose species native to the area. They benefit the environment as a whole and tend to grow better.
- T Don't over-water your lawn. By watering only once or twice a week, you will help your lawn by ensuring that the roots are healthy. Only water during early morning and early evening hours to minimize evaporative loss. Use rain water when possible. It is soft water, free of chlorine, lime and calcium, perfect for keeping plants healthy and happy.

For more information, call the DRCC at (519) 776-5209, ext 356
Email: postmaster@detroitriver.ca
Website: www.detroitriver.ca

