

## TIPS ON CONSERVING WATER

- *Replace an old toilet with a new 1.6 gallon-per-flush model. This can save A typical household from 7,900 to 21,700 gallons of water per year.*
- *Verify that your home is leak free. Many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.*
- *Avoid unnecessary flushing. Dispose facial tissues and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet.*
- *Place a plastic jug of water or commercial "dam" in older toilet tanks to cut down on the amount of water needed for each flush. This can save over 1,000 gallons per year.*
- *Take quick showers. This can save an average of 20 gallons of water.*



## WATER RATES

### Water Rates For Customers inside the Borough of Oxford

<u>Per Quarter</u>	<u>Net Rate Per 1,000 gallons</u>
First 5,000 gallons or fractions thereof	\$24.26
Excess per 1,000 gallons between 5001 and 50,000 gallons	\$5.55
Excess per 1,000 gallons between 50,000 gallons and 100,000 gallons	\$6.07
Excess per 1,000 gallons between 100,000 gallons and 150,000 gallons	\$6.89
Excess per 1,000 gallons over 150,000 Gallons	\$7.09

#### **Per Borough Ordinance #819-2008**

*The national average indoor residential water use per day, per person is:  
60 to 70 gallons*

## Oxford Borough Water Department



### WATER RATES

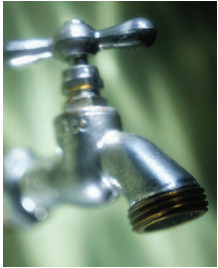
# Why Is My Water Bill So High?

**Look inside this publication for  
the answer to your questions.**



401 Market Street  
Oxford, PA 19363 610-932-2500

## Who can I call?



You have received your water bill and it is twice the amount that it usually is. What can you do? You should immediately check your meter to see if it is higher than the present reading on the bill. If it is higher then you may have a leak. Ask yourself these questions.

- Has the number of people living in your household changed?
- Have you recently had visitors or overnight guests?
- Have you noticed a leak?
- Has a faucet or toilet been dripping or running?
- Is there an outside faucet that someone could have left running or turned on without your knowledge?
- Have you had maintenance problems with a clothes or dish washer?
- Have you been watering your lawn?
- If you have automatic sprinklers, are they working correctly?

If you suspect a leak you may want to contact a plumber.

### Did you know?

There are approximately 90 days in a billing quarter.

## Solving the problem

Hopefully, after you answer some of these questions you and the water clerk can begin to get an idea of what may have increased your water bill.

Sometimes the solution is not so clear. Not all water leaks are obvious. The clerk may ask you to do this simple test to make sure your toilet is working correctly:

**Add food coloring to the toilet tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the toilet bowl within 30 minutes.**

### But it's just a leak, how much water did I lose?

#### Faucets:

Slow Drip	36 gallons per day
Steady Drip	180 gallons per day
One quarter open	684 gallons per day
One half open	1,620 gallons per day
Full open	3,600 gallons per day

#### Toilets:

Seeping	30 gallons per day
Leaking	250 gallons
Constantly running	6,000 gallons per day

One "seeping" toilet can result in an increased usage of 2,700 gallons per quarter.



### Sometimes there is no leak...

Believe it or not, 90% of the time **it is a leak**. However, sometimes the meter was read incorrectly.

When no leak is apparent the water clerk will ask the water department employees to reread the meter.

They will go back to the residence or business and reread the meter. A simple reread may indicate that numbers were transposed. The employees will give the corrected number which is then entered into the system.

**We are here to serve you. We want to do everything we can to help you**