

Water Conservation



An **ACRE**
is a measure of land.



An **ACRE FOOT** is a basic measurement of water volume.



An acre foot of water is enough water to cover one acre of land one foot deep or enough water to put 10 inches of water on a football field. One acre foot of water is 325,851 gallons. If an urban family of five uses one acre foot of water for all its needs for one year . . .

How many gallons per person is this?

How many gallons of water does your family use in a year?

CONSERVATION of water

means using less water because you want to use less, not because you have to use less (rationing).

If your family can do things that will result in using 10% less water, how many gallons of water would be saved? What would you do to save water?

If your family can do things that will result in using 20% less water, how many gallons of water would be saved? What would you do to save water?



As a family activity, fill out the water conservation inventory form. Use your answers to learn what you can do to be a water conservationist.



Indoors

- Have you checked faucets, toilets and showerheads for leaks?
- Have you fixed any leaks?
- Do you use the toilet as a trash can?
- Is your toilet tank 1.6 gallons in size?
- If your toilet tank is larger than 1.6 gallons, have you placed a plastic, one-quart bottle with water in the tank to reduce the amount of water used with each flush?
- If your toilet tank is larger than 1.6 gallons, have you installed a flush flow control stopper?
- Do you take baths?
- Do you take showers?
- Do you have a low-flow showerhead?
- Do your faucets have low-flow nozzles?
- Do you let water run while you brush your teeth?
- Do you run your dishwasher when it's not full?
- Do you let water run while washing vegetables or dishes?
- Do you keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the faucet until the water gets cold?
- When you wash dishes by hand, do you use two basins – one for washing and one for rinsing – instead of letting the water run?
- Do you put the stopper in the sink and let the water fill up when you're washing your hands?



As a family activity, fill out the water conservation inventory form. Use your answers to learn what you can do to be a water conservationist.



outdoors

- Do you sweep the driveways, walks and patio instead of cleaning them with a hose and water?
- Have you checked faucets for leaks and fixed any you found?
- Do you use a sponge and bucket to wash the car (and dog) instead of a hose with running water?
- Do you water the lawn in the early morning or evening to avoid evaporation?
- Do you water only when your landscape needs it?
- Do you water slowly, deeply, thoroughly and infrequently to encourage root growth?
- Do you mow your lawn to two inches or more and leave the clippings?
- Do you water trees and shrubs separately from the lawn?
- Do you use mulch to reduce evaporation?
- Have you planted native plants in your landscaping?
- Do you collect rainwater to use in the garden?
- Do you put litter and garbage in trash cans?
- Do you recycle?
- Do you compost leaves and other garden growth?
- Have you learned the right way to throw away leftover paint containers, garden chemical containers and cleaning product containers?

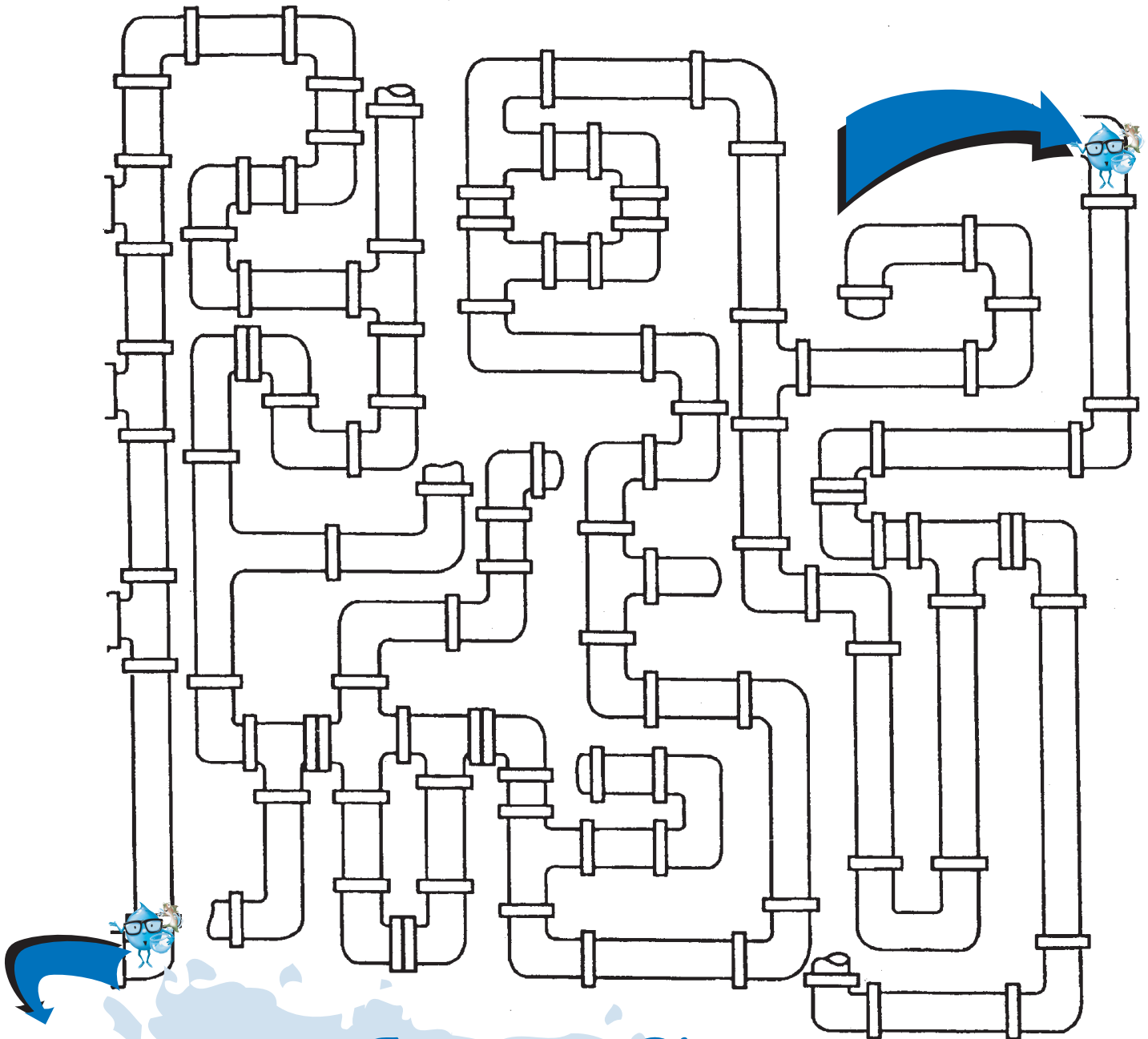
If you are a water conservationist your answers match the following:

INDOORS: yes, yes, no, yes, yes, yes, no, yes,
yes, yes, no, no, no, yes, yes, yes

OUTDOORS: all yes



Let's go down the drain... find which way the water flows through the pipes to reach the wastewater treatment plant.



Wastewater Treatment Plant