

Water Conservation Tips

The City and Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) are currently offering free water conservation devices to Martinez residents (low-flow shower heads, hose nozzles, faucet aerators, etc.). Pick up free devices for your home at CCWD's office, 1331 Concord Avenue in Concord. The City also has a limited number of devices at City Hall – Come pick yours up today!

Also take advantage of free [Home](#), [Large Landscape](#), and [Commercial](#) Water Use Surveys offered by CCWD to Martinez customers. These services will identify areas of overuse in home or building interiors and/or landscapes. Surveyors locate any unidentified leaks, and teach you how to read your water meter and monitor water use.

Dishwashing

- Upgrade to a water-efficient dishwasher (check out [Energy Star's buying guide](#))
- Don't leave water running when washing dishes in the sink
- Only run the dishwasher when there is a full load

Faucets

- Don't run water while shaving or brushing teeth
- Fix leaking faucets
- Install low-flow aerator (included in free conservation kits at City Hall water window and [CCWD](#))

Landscaping

- Convert your lawn to a water-efficient garden and get a [rebate](#) (consider [sheet mulching](#) to productively convert your lawn)
- Aerate lawn to ensure water is efficiently used
- Group plants together that have similar watering needs
- Distribute 2-3 inches of mulch in garden areas
- Plant drought-tolerant [plants](#)
- Pick up [free recycled water](#) from Central Contra Costa Sanitary District to hand-water lawns, gardens, and landscaping

Laundry

- Take advantage of rebates to invest in a water-efficient laundry machine (CCWD and PG&E's [High Efficiency Washing Machine Rebate Program](#) could save you up to \$150)
- Adjust load cycle to match quantity of clothes
- Wash only full loads to maximize water and energy efficiency

Showers

- Install low-flow water heads with temporary shut off button (free from City Hall)
- Fix leaking valves
- Take shorter showers
- Use a bucket to collect shower water as the temperature warms up (when the bucket's full you can use it to water your plants)

Toilets

- Replace toilets older than 1994
- Check for leaks with dye kit (provided in conservation kit).