

A Kid's Guide To Caring for Colorado Water in 2022



Know your water

1. Go to the source

Find out where your drinking water comes from to understand why your actions matter. Ask a teacher or parent for help or visit water22.org.

Conserve water indoors

2. Lessen up while you freshen up

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or while soaping up in the shower. Every minute with the faucet off saves at least 2 gallons of water!

3. Take the 5-min shower challenge!

Switch to showers instead of baths. The typical bath uses 35-50 gallons of water, compared to 10 gallons for a 5-minute shower with a low-flow showerhead.

4. Make appliances do the dirty work

Use a dishwasher and washing machine instead of handwashing and run your appliances only when FULL. By cutting a load, you save 15-20 gallons of water.

5. Lose the leaks

Make sure you tightly turn off the faucet after each use. See a leak you can't fix? Tell your parents or teacher! Leaks waste about 7 gallons of water per day for a faucet and 200 gallons for a toilet.

6. Toss trash, don't flush it!

Put waste like tissues, dead insects, and other items in the trash (or compost) rather than flushing down the toilet.

Conserve water outdoors

7. Skip the crewcut on grass

Helping to mow the lawn? Keep lawns at least 3" tall to retain moisture.

8. Donate water to thirsty plants

Collect "old" water from leftover water bottles, half-drunk cups, or cooled off, boiled water to water plants. Ask an adult for help making a rain barrel to capture rainwater or snowmelt and use it to water plants and landscaping.

Protect water quality

9. Scoop the poop and can litter

Pick up after your pet to reduce the transmission of E. coli and other diseases that pollute and keep trash out of waterways.

10. Get active on your way to school

Make a plan to walk, bike, roll, bus, or carpool with friends. Skipping car trips helps keep auto fluids and other chemicals off roads and out of rivers.

11. Let only rain down storm drains

Don't dump anything into storm sewers, which drain directly to rivers.

Connect and commit

12. Share your voice!

Submit your work to the Water '22 Student Showcase. Deadline for submissions is October 1, 2022. Details available at water22.org/youth-engagement.

