

### **FULLY LOAD YOUR WASHERS BEFORE USING**

Whether it's a load of whites or a stack of dirty dishes, running your washing machine or dishwasher only when they're full will help save millions of gallons of water each year!



### **KEEP YOUR PLANTS MOIST WITH MULCH**

You'll need to water the plants around your home less with quality mulching. Mulch also provides nutrients, reduces run-off and helps fight weeds.



### DON'T USE A HOSE IF ANOTHER TOOL WILL WORK

It's tempting to use the garden hose to wash away leaves. dust and other debris. It's also incredibly wasteful! Use a rake, broom, shovel or blower instead!



#### **GO TO THE CARWASH**

One of the worst things for our aguifer is washing your car at home. Today's car washes are specifically designed to recycle water and be as efficient as possible, so please visit your local car wash instead!



The OUR WATER OUR LIVES Drinking Water Conservation Campaign is brought to you by the Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection (LICAP) and representatives of the following organizations:

**Center for Water Resources Management at NYIT** Citizens Campaign for the Environment **Cornell Cooperative Extension Green Choices Consulting Irrigation Association of New York** Long Island Water Conference **Lloyd Harbor Conservation Board** Massapequa Water District Nassau County Executive's Office **Nassau County Comptroller's Office** Nassau County Legislature **New York American Water Open Space Council Peconic Green Growth Peconic Land Trust Perfect Earth Project Port Washington Water District** Scotts Miracle-Gro **Smithtown Town Planning Board** Southold Town Planning Board **Suffolk County Executive's Office** Suffolk County Department of Economic Development & Planning Suffolk County Legislature **Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District Suffolk County Water Authority US Geological Survey** Water for Long Island **Westhampton Beach Conservation Advisory Council** 

To learn more or to pledge your support to help conserve drinking water on Long Island, please visit:

### OurWaterOurLives.com

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For more information, please e-mail: Info@OurWaterOurLives.com







JOIN US IN TAKING SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP CONSERVE OUR **DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.** 



# IT'S A FACT:

ALL of the water on Long Island that is used for drinking, washing, watering lawns and all other purposes comes from groundwater contained in aquifers beneath the land surface.

## WHAT'S AN AQUIFER?

Long Island's aquifers are underground sand or gravel formations that store and yield significant amounts of water. Think of them as giant underground sponges saturated with water. Water enters our aquifers from rain and snow that falls to the ground and then seeps down through Long Island's permeable soil.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The lives of millions of people depend on this unique water source every day. Unfortunately, population growth and water overuse threaten the quantity of water in Long Island's aquifers, especially during the spring and summer, when lawn watering is at its peak.

# TOP 10 STEPS TO SAVE WATER AND MONEY:



# BE SMART ABOUT WATERING YOUR LAWN WITH SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS AND RAIN SENSORS

It's never been easier to have technology help you determine when your lawn needs to be watered!



### WATER LESS OFTEN

Your lawn does not need to be watered every day! If it doesn't rain, go to an odd/even day watering system or other method to cut back



#### **USE EPA WATERSENSE PRODUCTS**

WaterSense certified toilets, showerheads, faucets and other products will save you money on your water bill and help save Long Island's aguifers!



### **SHORTEN YOUR SHOWERS**

Showers can use up to 6.5 gallons of water per minute! So, let's still get clean and fresh...but keep our showers short and sweet.



### **FIX A LEAK**

Cumulatively, every tiny leak on Long Island could be wasting MILLIONS of gallons of water each year! So get out your wrench to fix it, or call your local plumber and help save our water supply.



### **BRUSH YOUR TEETH....IN SILENCE**

Turn off the tap while brushing and turn it back on when you're ready to rinse. You'll save more than a gallon of water per minute!