

Droughts occur when an area experiences low or no rainfall for a prolonged period of time. Regional droughts can affect us economically and local water shortages can be problematic. During droughts, water conservation is critical. Decrease the consumption of water through restricting activities like watering lawns, and washing cars to help conserve water. Drought is a natural phenomenon that is rare, but being prepared helps. That means making water-wise practices part of your daily lifestyle. Throughout the year, there are simple activities that can save you money and preserve our most precious resource.

### **Year-round, use these simple tips indoors:**

- Do not leave water running while brushing your teeth, washing your face and washing dishes.
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Use the dishwasher and washing machine on the shortest cycle, and only when you have a full load.
- Avoid using a garbage disposal, a source of large water usage.
- Refrigerate a container of water for cold drinking water instead of allowing the water faucet to run until cold.
- Check for and repair leaks in your toilets and plumbing.