

The amount of lifornia's water usage that is dedicated to irrigation for agriculture.

California.

The daily water footprint (both direct and indirect water use) of the average American. That's about twice the worldwide average, and the equivalent of running the dishwasher 400 times.

The amount of our national water supply that goes to grow food-through irrigation, aquaculture and livestock production.

Save Our Water

Water and our everyday habits are inextricably connected. With 2014 being California's fourth driest year on record, there's a renewed focus on this precious resource. Here's what you need to know and some easy ways you can conserve.

Load the Dishwasher Most newer, efficient dishwashers use much less water than washing by hand; make sure it's full to get the most out of your water.

Use It Twice When you rinse produce, save the water to put on your plants.

Xeriscape

Design your landscape to reduce the need for water. Try drought-tolerant plants like cacti and herbs that need less water, such as sage and thyme.

Good to the Last Drop Use a rain barrel to collect water for your garden.

Check for Efficiency

OConsider upgrading fixtures and appliances, such as toilets and washing machines, to water-efficient models.

Take It Outside O Compost instead of using the garbage disposal (you'll save water and reduce food waste).

Approximately how much water you use taking a 10-minute shower. Aim

for 5 minutes or less to

save more than 300 gallons

of water per month.

The portion of your water footprint attributed to your diet (food and drink).

FINDING YOUR FOOTPRINT: The Food/Water Connection

Here's a snapshot of the average water footprint (both direct and indirect) of some of our favorite foods and drinks. By Kate Geagan, M.S., R.D.



GALLONS

GALLONS

l oz. almonds

3 oz. chicken GALLONS GALLONS

1 large egg

1 cup of coffee 1 glass of wine

1 cup of tea

GALLONS

GALLONS SOURCES: WATERFOOTPRINT, ORG; USGS.GOV; NATIONAL WATER FOOTPRINT ACCOUNTS, MEKONNEN & HOEKSTRA 2011