

How Valuable is the Water Going Down the Drain?

The average American shower uses 2.2 gallons of water every minute. Imagine how your life would change if you had to live even one day without water. You'd see how valuable water really is.

Shower Duration	Gallons Used	
20 _{min}	45	...half the amount of water an average American uses in a day which is more than three week's water for the average Sub-Saharan African
16 _{min} 48 _s	37	...water it takes to produce a 4 oz cup of coffee—that's a Starbucks Tall about 1/3 full OR enough water or to keep one square foot of a desert golf course green for a year
13 _{min} 36 _s	30	...the amount of water that a slow, silent toilet leak wastes in a day
10 _{min} 55 _s	24	...water used to fill an average family bathtub
10 _{min} 30 _s	23	...the amount of water used to wash a load in a high-efficiency clothes washer
9 _{min} 36 _s	21.1	...water it takes to produce 2 slices of bread
7 _{min} 43 _s	17	...water a garden hose uses per minute
6 _{min} 48 _s	15	...enough water to hand wash a car, or run one load through the dishwasher
4 _{min} 8 _s	9.1	...a week's drinking water for one person living in a moderate climate
3 _{min} 30 _s	7	...an hours worth of evaporation from an average, uncovered residential pool (peak hourly evaporation rate)
2 _{min} 24 _s	5.5	...20 liters, the target the UN has set for minimum daily water use in the developing world
57 _s	2.1	...8 liters, that's the average amount a Sub-Saharan African will have access to today, or enough water to flush a low-flow toilet and wash your hands

We rely on water to: power our homes, grow our food, and manufacture almost everything from cars to computers

