

# Water Conservation



An **ACRE**  
is a measure of land.



An **ACRE FOOT** is a basic measurement of water volume.



*An acre foot of water is enough water to cover one acre of land one foot deep or enough water to put 10 inches of water on a football field. One acre foot of water is 325,851 gallons. If an urban family of five uses one acre foot of water for all its needs for one year . . .*

*How many gallons per person is this?*

*How many gallons of water does your family use in a year?*

## CONSERVATION of water

*means using less water because you want to use less, not because you have to use less (rationing).*

*If your family can do things that will result in using 10% less water, how many gallons of water would be saved? What would you do to save water?*

*If your family can do things that will result in using 20% less water, how many gallons of water would be saved? What would you do to save water?*



As a family activity, fill out the water conservation inventory form. Use your answers to learn what you can do to be a water conservationist.



## Indoors

- Have you checked faucets, toilets and showerheads for leaks?
- Have you fixed any leaks?
- Do you use the toilet as a trash can?
- Is your toilet tank 1.6 gallons in size?
- If your toilet tank is larger than 1.6 gallons, have you placed a plastic, one-quart bottle with water in the tank to reduce the amount of water used with each flush?
- If your toilet tank is larger than 1.6 gallons, have you installed a flush flow control stopper?
- Do you take baths?
- Do you take showers?
- Do you have a low-flow showerhead?
- Do your faucets have low-flow nozzles?
- Do you let water run while you brush your teeth?
- Do you run your dishwasher when it's not full?
- Do you let water run while washing vegetables or dishes?
- Do you keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the faucet until the water gets cold?
- When you wash dishes by hand, do you use two basins – one for washing and one for rinsing – instead of letting the water run?
- Do you put the stopper in the sink and let the water fill up when you're washing your hands?



As a family activity, fill out the water conservation inventory form. Use your answers to learn what you can do to be a water conservationist.



## outdoors

- Do you sweep the driveways, walks and patio instead of cleaning them with a hose and water?
- Have you checked faucets for leaks and fixed any you found?
- Do you use a sponge and bucket to wash the car (and dog) instead of a hose with running water?
- Do you water the lawn in the early morning or evening to avoid evaporation?
- Do you water only when your landscape needs it?
- Do you water slowly, deeply, thoroughly and infrequently to encourage root growth?
- Do you mow your lawn to two inches or more and leave the clippings?
- Do you water trees and shrubs separately from the lawn?
- Do you use mulch to reduce evaporation?
- Have you planted native plants in your landscaping?
- Do you collect rainwater to use in the garden?
- Do you put litter and garbage in trash cans?
- Do you recycle?
- Do you compost leaves and other garden growth?
- Have you learned the right way to throw away leftover paint containers, garden chemical containers and cleaning product containers?

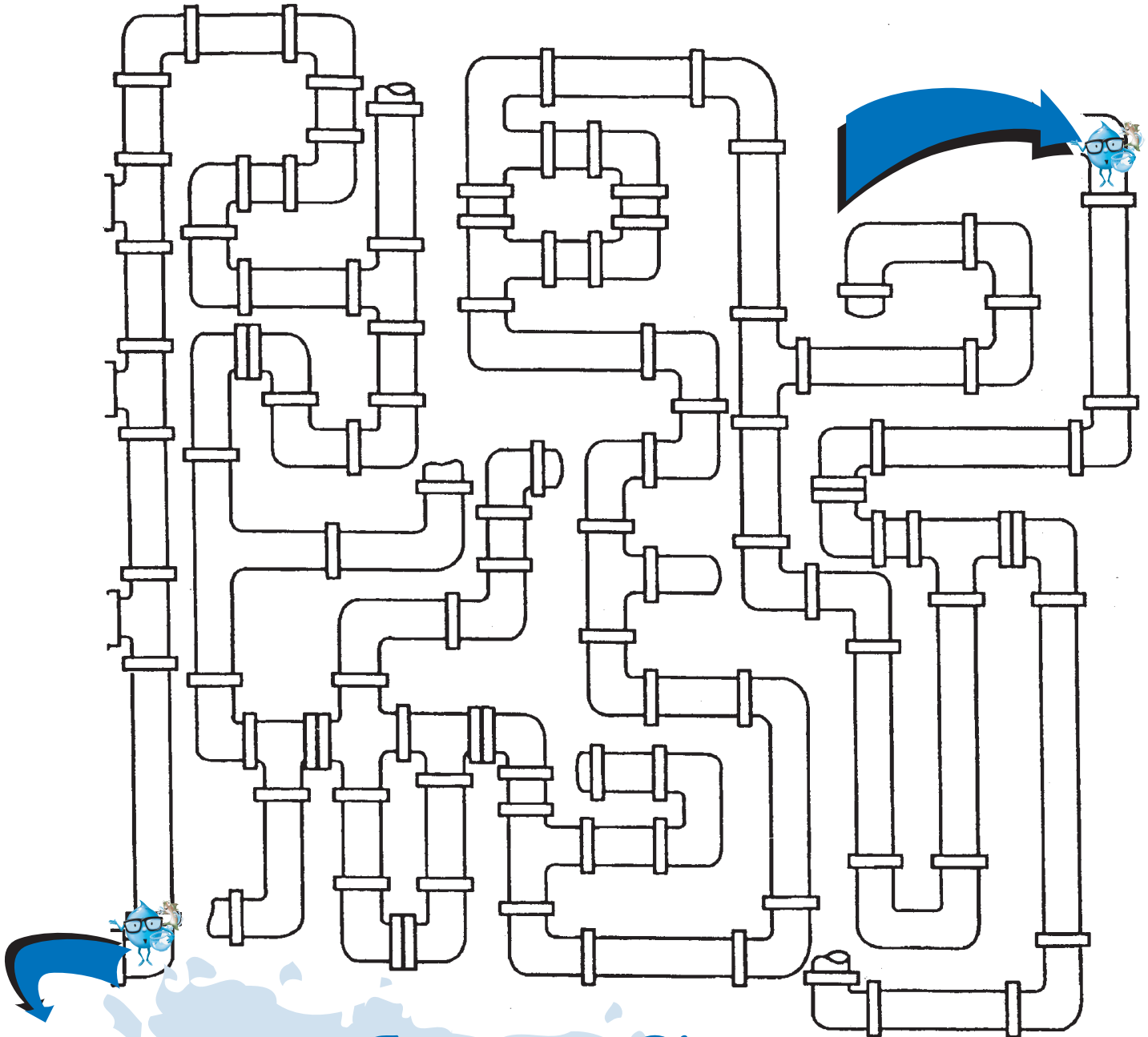
If you are a water conservationist your answers match the following:

**INDOORS:** yes, yes, no, yes, yes, yes, no, yes,  
yes, yes, no, no, no, yes, yes, yes

**OUTDOORS:** all yes



Let's go down the drain... find which way the water flows through the pipes to reach the wastewater treatment plant.



Wastewater Treatment Plant