

Conservation in the Kitchen

Dishwasher

- Instead of rinsing dirty dishes, scrape food waste off before loading the dishwasher.
- Wait to run your dishwasher until it is completely full.
- Use the 'light' cycle on your dishwasher unless you have a particularly dirty load. Most modern dishwashers will fully clean your dishes without having to run the longer 'normal' cycle.
- Use an acid wash aid every time you run a load, such as Lemi Shine or citric acid. This will prevent hard water build up in the plumbing of the dishwasher so it will wash most efficiently.
- Upgrade to a newer model that is more water efficient.

Sink faucets

- Install a faucet restrictor or an aerator to reduce the volume of water coming out of the faucet. Aerators have the added benefit of oxygenating your tap water so it will have a better taste, too.
- Repair drippy or leaking faucets immediately. Even the smallest leaks add up quickly! The hardware store can usually help you find the correct replacement gaskets and o-rings needed to do the repair yourself.
- Use hot tap water wisely. A large amount of cool water must flow through the pipes between your hot water heater and faucet before you get hot water into the sink. Many times, using cool tap water is sufficient unless you have a particularly dirty job. If you require hot water, catch the cool water in a basin and save it to water plants.

Food preparation

- When washing a large amount of vegetables, try swishing them around a basin of cool water instead of holding them under running water. Afterward, use the basin to water your plants.

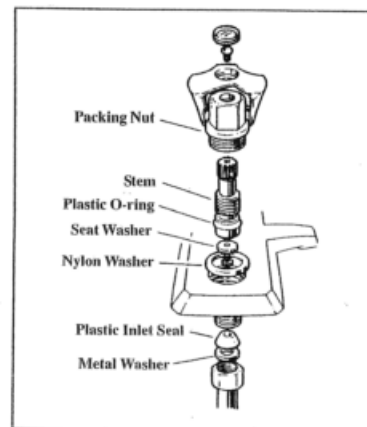
Conservation Kit

- North Gualala Water Company is happy to offer free Water Conservation Kits to every customer. Inside you'll find faucet restrictors and other water-saving items.

Fixing Faucets

The most common cause of a leaky faucet is a worn washer. It can waste a lot of water...even a small leak can waste 7 gallons per day. Here's how to fix a leaky faucet.

- Turn off water supply to faucet.
- Remove decorative cover and handle.
- Remove collar or locknut.
- Take out stem.
- Change worn washer. Be sure replacement washer is the correct size and type.
- Reverse the process to reassemble faucet.
- Turn on water supply.



Common Faucet Assembly