



Far Hills Association, Inc., 13 Blueberry Road, Ashburnham, MA 01430-1049

FHA Drinking Water Distribution System Information

The drinking water distribution system for Far Hill Association is privately owned by the Association. We get our water from the Town of Ashburnham Water Department, which pumps and filters water from Upper Naukeag Lake and distributes through two separate systems: One goes to the center of Ashburnham, the other goes to Winchendon; water for FHA is taken from the Winchendon line. Please note that, unlike the water supplied to the center of Ashburnham, the Winchendon line (and therefore FHA water) is not fluoridated. The latest water quality report is available online at <https://www.townofwinchendon.com/public-works/pages/water>

FHA has a single meter to measure the amount of water used by the entire Association. The cost of that water is shared equally by Association homeowners through our annual dues. Therefore, our efforts to conserve water benefits all of us. Some suggestions for conserving water are provided below. If you see any unusual water flow outdoors, please contact the Water Director - it may be a water line break!

In the front yard of each house is a valve where the house water line is connected to the FHA water main. This valve, called the "curb stop," is the responsibility of the Association. The water line going from the curb stop to the house is the responsibility of the homeowner. Only the Water Director (or representative) should operate the curb stop. If a homeowner operates the curb stop, then the homeowner is responsible for any related repairs and is also subject to additional fines imposed by FHA. If you have any need to shut off or turn on water at the curb stop, please contact the Association or FHA Water Director. There is no charge for this service (except in cases of non-payment of dues). If you leave your house empty for a substantial portion of the winter, we encourage you to have your water shut off at the curb stop. See this notice about seasonal water shutoffs in the file titled: "Seasonal Water Shutoff Notice".

Water is Precious - Please Conserve

Water Conservation Tips

Here are a number of ways you can reduce water use at your home

- Rethink lawn watering. It uses a lot of water and it takes a lot of effort to move the sprinkler around. Our grasses here may turn brown during a dry spell, but they always seem to come back when it rains!
- Fix those leaky faucets. That constant drip is more than just annoying; it's also a huge waste of water. You can lose more than 20 gallons of water a day from a single drippy faucet!
- Install low-flow faucet aerators in your sinks - you can save gallons of water each time you use the tap. Conventional faucets flow as high as 3 gallons per minute, but low-flow faucets flow at 1.5 gallons per minute.
- When hand-washing dishes, never run water continuously. Wash dishes in a partially filled sink and then rinse them using the spray attachment on your tap.
- If you have an electric dishwasher, use it only to wash full loads, and use the shortest cycle possible. Many dishwashers have a conserve/water-miser cycle.
- Wash only full loads in your washing machine.
- Use the shortest cycle possible for washing clothes, and use the "suds-saver" feature if your machine has one.
- Install a low-flow showerhead. It may cost you some money up front, but your water conservation efforts will save you money down the road. Conventional showerheads flow at 5 gallons per minute or more, whereas low-flow showerheads typically flow at 2.5 gallons per minute (or less!).
- Spend less time in the shower.
- Think of baths as an occasional treat and stick to showers. The average bath uses 35 to 50 gallons of water, whereas a 10-minute shower with a low-flow showerhead only uses 25 gallons.
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and shave.
- Get a low-flow toilet. Flushing is the biggest water hog in the house. Older, conventional toilets can use 5 to 7 gallons per flush, but low-flow models use as little as 1.6 gallons. Since the average person flushes five times a day, the gallons can really add up.
- If you can't replace your higher volume toilet, put a plastic bottle filled with water in your toilet tank to reduce the amount of water used per flush.
- To check for a toilet leak, put dye or food coloring into the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, there's a leak that should be repaired.
- "If it's yellow, let it mellow." The saying may be cliché, but it's good advice. If you're grossed-out by the "yellow," just put the toilet lid down.

On average, each household uses about 180 gallons of water per day. If each household could reduce water use by just 10 gallons per day, the association could save close to \$5000 in water costs per year.

Let's all do our best to reduce water use!