

From: Mt Gretna Campmeeting Association <office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 8:01 AM
To: office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org
Subject: MGCA Water Conservation - Urgent



Camp Connect

A Communication of the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting



Please, Don't Be A Drip

The Campmeeting is seeing an increase of 10,000 gallons of water usage DAILY compared to one year ago! Please do your part to conserve water...

At this time of year, that almost certainly means that some Members are letting their faucets drip or run to prevent their pipes from freezing. We recognize that cottage owners want to prevent damage, but this practice wastes treated water and costs all Members money, and the MGCA does not condone it.

An additional problem is that dripping or running water can freeze in the drain line causing a backup and overflow inside your cottage. This has happened in the past and creates quite a mess. So please, don't be a drip! Take the steps necessary to protect your water lines against low temperatures. Properly drain and winterize your cottage for the cold winter months.

PROPER WINTERIZATION

If you winterize your cottage, consider hiring a professional company to handle the project. A recent Facebook post asked for recommendations. They are listed below:

- JSL Mechanical, 717.336.2255, <https://jslmechanicalinc.com> 2760 North Reading Road, Reinholds, PA 17569
- L & T Plumbing & Heating, 717.273.7088 210 Burd Coleman Road, Cornwall, PA 17016

NOTE: The MGCA does not endorse either of the companies and does not benefit from their use. The question was recently posed on social media, and these were the two vendors that were recommended.

Together, as a community, we can all do more to conserve water. When a similar notice was sent to Members last year, water usage reduced by nearly 2,000 gallons per day. Every bit helps!

CONSERVATION

National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) suggests:

1. If you have a dishwasher, put down the sponge. It may feel more virtuous to wash by hand, but it's more wasteful: You use up to 27 gallons of water per load by hand washing versus as little as 3 gallons with an ENERGY STAR-rated dishwasher. And just scrape off the food scraps instead of rinsing each dish before you load it.
2. Let the professionals wash your car. Once again, your DIY instinct is admirable . . . but profligate. Letting the local car wash do the dirty work could save up to 100 gallons.
3. Shower with a bucket. Granted, it's a little weird. But while you're in there, you could capture a gallon or more that could be put to good use watering your plants.
4. Test your toilet. Undetected internal leaks from tank to bowl could waste up to 100 gallons a day. Drop a dye tablet or food coloring in the tank yearly to see if the color of the water in the bowl changes color. If it does, your toilet needs a replacement rubber flapper or fill mechanism.
5. Conduct regular leak hunts. A 1/16-inch opening in your faucet could waste 100 gallons a day. Tour your cottage monthly, inside, and out, in search of dripping faucets, showerheads, hoses, and sprinklers. Most faucet drips can be fixed simply by replacing a worn out washer. For other tips and fixes, see the EPA's WaterSense site. Excessive leaks could be costly to both you and your neighbors.
6. Invest in that new high-efficiency appliance or fixture. Your utility company might offer rebates or other incentives when you buy new water-saving showerheads, faucets, clothes washers, or toilets. And even if it doesn't, you'll still wind-up saving tons of money in the long run. Look for the EPA's WaterSense label or ENERGY STAR certification.

Together, as a community, we should all do our best to conserve water.

Thank you.

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