

## Golden's Water Supply

Wasting water, even in times of abundant supply, is never a good idea. Excessive use of water costs you money and prevents the City from storing it for a non-rainy day.

Golden has a diversified water supply that has been developed throughout its history. The success of its supply is due to the combination of senior direct flow rights; trans-mountain water from Henderson Mine, Vidler Tunnel and Berthoud Ditch; and storage in the Upper and Lower Urad Reservoirs. By 2005, construction of Guanella Reservoir, with a capacity of 1500 acre feet will be completed. It will increase storage capacity threefold and provide a critical water supply in times of shortage or prolonged drought.

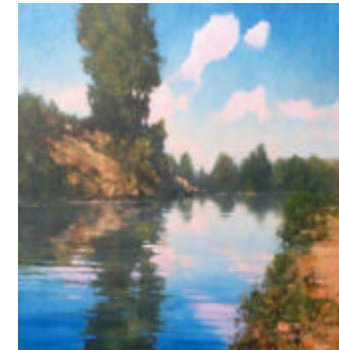


The Clear Creek Watershed is Golden's drinking water source.

**Water Conservation in Golden**  
City of Golden  
Environmental Services Division  
1445 10th Street  
Golden, CO 80401



## Water Conservation in Golden



"Summer Ponds" by John Phillips

Full ponds reflect a blue sky behind Golden's water treatment plant.

Life as we know it, depends on water. According to the American Water Works Association we use 341 billion gallons of treated water per day in the United States. The United States Environmental Protection Agency tells us that a typical family of four can save between 50,000 to 100,000 gallons of water per year just by following a few of the suggestions included inside.

The City of Golden asks that you contribute to City-wide water conservation efforts by using water responsibly. "Let's make every drop count."

## Water - A Limited Resource

Many of us, used to water flowing from our taps at the turn of a hand, have forgotten that it is a limited resource that is vital to our



One of life's  
great pleasures!

very existence. *Of all the water on the planet, including, salt, fresh, frozen, ground and surface water, less than one percent is available to meet all human needs.* This

small percentage grows all crops, runs the world's industries and meets the domestic needs of the world's growing population.

There is no longer any question that the world is facing a water crisis. The United States is less affected than many parts of the world and Golden is much better prepared to face a water shortage than many local areas. Golden's historic and more recent acquired water rights, as well as increasing water storage capacity, can provide for our community needs into the future. It is time to think of how we can best and most responsibly use our most precious natural resource, starting in our own homes.

There are many simple ways we can change our habits to more wisely use our water. Here is a list of things you can do to make a big difference with very little effort. Choose the ones that best work for you.

### Save water in your house.

1. Keep a pitcher of water in your refrigerator for when you want a drink of cold water. Don't run water until it gets cold.
2. Turn water off while brushing your teeth or shaving.
3. Install low flow shower heads and low flush toilets. Current models work well.
4. Use faucet aerators and save up to 60 percent water.
5. Buy water efficient appliances when your current ones need replacement. They use 20 – 40 percent less water and are much more energy efficient than older models.
6. Run full loads in the clothes washer and dishwasher.
7. Repair any leaking shower heads or other fixtures.



Water...where would we be without it?

### Save water in your yard.

1. Do not use a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalks. Use a broom to sweep up dirt and debris.
2. Use water efficient irrigation. Thirty percent or more of sprayed water can be lost to evaporation. Drip line irrigation is very efficient where appropriate. Older irrigation systems can be retrofitted.
3. Water lawns and gardens early in the morning or in the evening when the sun is low and the wind is not blowing.
4. Make sure your irrigation is not watering the driveway, sidewalks, street etc. and correct where necessary.
5. Mow grass with a sharp blade set high. Keep grass 2-3 inches tall for better water retention.
6. Use native grasses and plants in your landscape designs. They are naturally drought tolerant.
7. Use mulch in gardens. It will hold moisture in and minimize weed growth.
8. If washing your vehicle at home, park it on the grass and turn off the hose when not using the water.