

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF OXFORD

MAYOR'S HOME CONSERVATION TIPS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

Water may seem like an infinite resource, but it's drying up at an alarming rate. When it's raining outside water can look pretty plentiful. But the facts are in, and regardless of how the skies may look during a downpour, with an ever expanding population and development to support it, clean, abundant water is becoming an increasingly rare, valuable and expensive commodity in the U.S. Some cities and states are fighting over water rights and many aging water utilities are being tasked with providing expanded services while attempting to operate their facilities with outdated equipment.

Learning good water management can be a challenge, no doubt, but it's an important lesson. The following are five dynamic and fun ways you can learn and help teach your children that a drop of water is a terrible thing to waste.

1. Use interactive online resources like the ones listed below. These are especially good for children, but adults can learn a few things also.

(a) <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/kids/games.html>

(b) <http://science.howstuffworks.com/science-vs-myth/what-if/what-if-access-to-clean-water.htm>

(c) <http://www.h2ouse.org>

2. Look for water leaks where you live. Let your child help you.
3. Visit your local water plant, or ask the school about arranging a field trip. You can learn a lot about what goes into making clean, drinkable water!
4. Start a garden to see how much water it takes to keep your garden growing.
5. Install a rain barrel at one of your downspouts to collect water for your garden or lawn.

The City of Oxford will partner with the community to build upon the charm and character of our historic, vibrant, and walkable city to create an extraordinary quality of life for all. The Green Challenge Committee aims to promote environmentally-friendly practices to achieve this vision. Green Challenge Committee members are: Commissioners Betty Moseley (Chair), Ron Bullock, and Calvin "C.J." Harris.