

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## HOW MUCH WATER ARE YOU REALLY USING?

### OVERVIEW:

This will be a take home assignment that students will perform. Students will record how much water they are using at home and will come back the next day to calculate how much water they are consuming on a daily basis and find ways to cut down on usage and costs. The purpose of this assignment is to bring awareness to the topic of water scarcity and learn how to efficiently use their resources.

### WATER HUNT:

Record how many times/ how many minutes a day you and your family use these water resources at home.

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS

RESTROOM: \_\_\_\_\_ TIMES

BATHING: \_\_\_\_\_ MINUTES

HYGIENE (TEETH): \_\_\_\_\_ MINUTES

DISHWASHING: \_\_\_\_\_ MINUTES/CYCLE

LAUNDRY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOADS

Now that you've collected this information, let's do some math!

### CONVERSIONS:

1 FLUSH = ~3.5 GALLONS

1 MINUTE IN THE SHOWER = ~4 GALLONS

1 MINUTE OF TEETH BRUSHING/ HANDWASHING = ~1.5 GALLONS

1 CYCLE OF DISHES = ~6 GALLONS

1 LOAD OF LAUNDRY = ~40 GALLONS

Using these conversions, calculate how much water is used by your family:

Per Day: \_\_\_\_\_ GALLONS

Per Week: \_\_\_\_\_ GALLONS

Per Month: \_\_\_\_\_ GALLONS

Per Year: \_\_\_\_\_ GALLONS

Now let's calculate costs:

IN PORTLAND, 1.8 GALLONS = ~\$0.01

This may not seem like a lot but it sure does add up over time!

Per Day: \_\_\_\_\_ DOLLARS

Per Week: \_\_\_\_\_ DOLLARS

Per Month: \_\_\_\_\_ DOLLARS

Per Year: \_\_\_\_\_ DOLLARS

TIPS TO save water and money:

- Take showers rather than baths
- Take shorter showers
- Turn the faucet off while you're brushing your teeth
- Hand wash your dishes rather than placing them in the dishwasher
- Tighten the valves on the toilet to prevent leaks
- Replace older machines with newer, EnergyStar models (these help save water and electricity)

NOW BRAINSTORM SOME OF YOUR OWN TIPS:

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