

HOW **BIG** IS YOUR WATER FOOTPRINT?

The **Water Footprint Calculator** lets you estimate your water use AND tells you how to reduce your “water footprint,” which is important because freshwater resources in this country and around the world are under stress. Turning off the tap is a great first step, but **it’s virtual water** – the water it takes to create the products and energy we use – that accounts for **most of your water footprint**.



H2Oconserve.org



What you eat and drink accounts for most of your water footprint because almost one third of all water withdrawn in the United States is used for agriculture.

TIPS: Eat less foods with large water footprints — meat, dairy, processed foods — and eat more fruits, vegetables, nuts, beans and whole grains.



The average family of four indirectly uses hundreds of gallons of water per day if their electricity is produced by power plants that rely on outdated cooling water systems. Such plants account for nearly half of all water withdrawn in the United States.

TIPS: Use energy efficient appliances, conserve energy and, for those who can, install solar or wind power at your home.



A typical household uses thousands of gallons of water each year for things like toilets, showers and lawn watering.

TIPS: Check for drips and leaks in your plumbing and water your lawn in the morning or evening to minimize loss to evaporation.



It takes a lot of water to make the consumer goods and services that you use and buy everyday.

TIPS: Reduce, reuse and recycle your consumer products to lower your water footprint and minimize trash in landfills.

Calculate your water footprint and learn more about saving water at H2Oconserve.org



© 2011 GRACE all rights reserved.

Printed on recycled paper.

GRACE thanks the following organizations for their promotion of the Water Footprint Calculator:

