



# CITY OF ONEIDA

WATER DEPARTMENT  
109 N. Main Street

Oneida NY 13421-0550  
Tel.: (315) 363-1490  
Fax: (315) 363-9558

## FACTS ABOUT RESIDENTIAL WATER

### How Much Water Do I Use?

Many customers ask the question “how much water does the average person use each day?” The answer to this question, of course, requires a definition of the “average person”. In general, per capita water use ranges from about 40 to 80 gallons per day (gpd) in the eastern United States. In order to understand the several ways in which each person uses water, we have prepared the following detailed chart:

Type of Use	Usage Per Person (gpd)
Shower/tub	15-25
Sink	3-5
Toilet	5-15
Washing Clothes	10-15
Washing Dishes, Etc.	5-10
Cooking	1-2
Miscellaneous	1-3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40-80</b>

It should be noted that certain customers will use more or less than these average values.

In addition to these types of in-house usage, the outside uses of water such as washing of cars, walks, driveways, lawn sprinkling, and irrigation, etc., varies considerably.

For example, a 5/8” hose will normally discharge at a rate of about 3 to 5 gallons per minute. The use of an outside hose for 30-minutes, would consume 90 to 150 gallons or double the use of water within the home during 24 hours.

### How Much Water Does Each Appliance Use?

The following list sets forth the average uses of certain appliances and fixtures found within the home:

Type of Fixture	Usage
Washing Machine	25-40 gal.
Dishwasher	15-30 gal.
Bathtub	25-35 gal.
Toilet	1.5-6 gal.
Shower	3-5 gal. Per minute
Sink Faucet	2-3 gal. Per minute
Outside Faucet	3-5 gal. Per minute

### How Can I Check My Water Usage?

In order to determine your average daily use or to check your appliance usage, you can read your meter on an hourly, daily or weekly basis. Simply record your meter reading at the beginning of a measurement period. The difference between these two meter readings will be the water used during the period. Note that your water meter reading is in cubic feet and can be readily converted to gallons by the factor of 7.5 gallons in each cubic foot. This audit will provide useful information as to your appliance usage and your water use habits.

#### Water Use Audit (example)

Date	Time	Meter reading (cubic feet)
5-2	8 pm	105023
5-9	8 pm	105223

Difference: 7 Days = 200 cubic feet

Convert to Gallons x 7.5 gallons/cubic feet

Total = 1,500 gallons

Divide by 7 days

Daily Use = 214 gallons

Number of Users – 3

Average Daily Usage Per Person – 71 gallons