

As our neighbors in the municipalities of Aspen, Basalt, and Carbondale continue to be under water restrictions due to drought conditions, Pitkin County Public Health Department and the Healthy Rivers and Streams Board want to remind our residents and visitors of rural areas that we too can be doing our part to conserve water. If your residence is served by a well, spring, or cistern, please remember the items listed below the next time you turn on your faucet or outside hose bib. Our water is a community resource and as the drought continues, everyone should be doing their part to conserve.

- Turn off faucet when brushing teeth and shaving.
- Don't run the water while washing dishes. Fill the sink instead.
- Only run the dishwasher or washing machine with a full load.
- For those who have the water rights, water outside plants from 6 pm to 10 am, 3 days per week, with a minimal cycle time to reduce water lost to evaporation. If you do not know what water rights you have, you can check at the Colorado Division of Water Resource's website at: <http://water.state.co.us/Home/Pages/default.aspx>
- More information on outside watering during a drought can be found at <http://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/garden/07240.pdf>
- Replace old or broken faucets and showerheads with high-efficiency ones.
- Fix leaking toilets. Leaking toilets can also harm your septic system.
- Fix leaking pipes and irrigation equipment.

Consider watering plants with collected rainwater; Rainwater harvesting is legal in Colorado. For information on rainwater harvesting please go to <http://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/natural-resources/rainwater-collection-colorado-6-707/>

For information on greywater reuse in unincorporated Pitkin County, please contact Kurt Dahl, Pitkin County Environmental Health Manager, at [kurt.dahl@pitkincounty.com](mailto:kurt.dahl@pitkincounty.com) or 970-920-5438.