



WATER TIPS

SAVING ENERGY ALSO SAVES WATER

USAGE

One of the largest uses of water in the United States is the production of electrical power.

Most (89%) of the energy produced in the US comes from thermoelectric power plants (coal or nuclear). Another 9% comes from hydroelectric (water) power. According to NREL, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, over 3.3 billion gallons of water are consumed per day at thermoelectric plants. In addition, over 9 billion gallons of water per day are lost to evaporation from reservoir surfaces at hydroelectric plants.

Nationally, the water used by these two types of power generation translates to about 2 gallons of fresh water consumed per kiloWatt-hour (kWh) of electricity produced. The exact amount of water consumed varies from location to location depending on the type of power plant. In New Mexico, the weighted average is a little lower: **around 1.13 gallons of water is consumed per kWh of electricity generated at the source.**

WASTE ADDS UP

A single 60-watt incandescent bulb left on at home while you are at work will use about 125 kWh of electricity per year. That's more than 141 gallons of water used just to make the electricity to power that single bulb!

REPLACE

An 11-watt Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) produces the same amount of light as a 60-watt incandescent bulb. Replacing an incandescent bulb with a CFL would save 102 kWh of electricity and 115 gallons of water per year.

Take simple energy-savings steps to help conserve our region's water. Replacing a single light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb can save enough water to flush a household toilet 72 times!

