



## Go Green with Paperless Bills!

Did you know that Oro Valley Water Utility offers paperless bills or E-bills? Using today's technology to conduct business is environmentally friendly, efficient and reduces costs associated with postage, pre-printed forms and envelopes. Once enrolled in the program, you will receive a monthly email notification alerting you that your E-bill is available for viewing. The E-bill will tell you the bill amount and due date of your water bill. This E-bill will also have a link to the Water-on-the-Web site where you can view your current water bill and pay it on-line if you choose.

**Say YES to paperless!** Register for E-bills on the following web site [www.orovalleyaz.gov](http://www.orovalleyaz.gov). Under **Town Government** scroll down and select **Water Utility**. Once on the Water Utility portion of the web site, click on **E-bill Registration** and follow the instructions. Registration must be completed on-line. Please allow approximately 1 month to begin receiving your E-bill. When you become an E-bill customer, you will no longer receive a paper bill. Should you want a copy for your records, you may print it from the web site. You may continue to pay your water bill as you currently do or you may opt to pay on-line or through an automated payment program. If you have questions regarding E-bills, please contact the Customer Service Department, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (520) 229-5000.

## Hand Washing Dishes is More Water

### Efficient, Right?

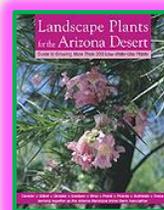
The amount of water we use inside our home is dependent upon many things. User behavior, family size and the efficiency of appliances all play a role in how and where we use most of our water. The dishwasher is one of those appliances where efficiency is often questioned related to run time and whether it's better to hand wash dishes. If your dishwasher was purchased prior to 1994, it may be worth looking into the new more efficient models. Models prior to 1994 may use 10 gallons or more per load as compared to the new models that may use 4 gallons per load. Of course this all depends on the model and age of the machine. However, if you use 5 gallons rinsing the dishes before they even make it into the dishwasher you can see how both scenarios may use more water than you anticipate. Hand washing dishes may or may not save you water depending on your methods. Next time you hand wash



dishes, try using basins to catch the rinse water/wash water so you can see how much you really use. Don't forget to include the water you may waste waiting for the water to get hot. For more information on energy and water efficient technologies visit the Arizona Department of Water Resources [ADWR - Statewide Planning / Conservation / Technologies](#).

## Water Saving Activities for Spring

- Run your irrigation system manually and check that all emitters are in place and there are no obvious leaks in the system in your yard. Let your neighbors know if they have leaks in their irrigation system.
- Check pool and fountain auto-fills to make sure they are working properly. Freezing temperatures can cause these devices to crack and because they are typically hidden they are one of those "out of sight, out of mind" situations. Also check pool pumps and filters for leaks. Talk to a local pool service or your pool service company for information on pool maintenance.



- If you are planning to plant this spring, choose low water use plants. Only provide the plants the water they need. There are many plant varieties that fall within the xeriscape principles. Check out [Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert Online! Plant Search](#). This site from Arizona Municipal Water Users Association has lots of great information. This book is also available in our office along with other conservation information.
- Any time is a great time to take a look at your water meter and make sure you don't have any leaks. Find out how to read your meter and check for leaks with our [High Water Use Action Plan](#). This pamphlet is also available in our office.
- Thinking about rainwater harvesting this year? There are several local resources to learn more about the process and products available. These are just a few. Visit [www.harvestingrainwater.com](http://www.harvestingrainwater.com) or [www.watershedmq.org](http://www.watershedmq.org) for more information.