

# HOW DO WE USE WATER IN METRO VANCOUVER?



## INQUIRY SPARK ACTIVITY

## INTRODUCTION

Metro Vancouver's residents use a lot of water. Yet, how often do we consider our daily water usage and how we could use it more wisely? This inquiry spark activity aims to generate curiosity about our daily water usage, and engage us in thinking about how we could all be wiser with the water we use.

## ACTIVITY

### PART I: HOW MUCH WATER DO YOU THINK EACH PERSON IN METRO VANCOUVER USES ON AVERAGE EACH DAY?

Consider the above question and possible answer from these options:

**A.** 100 litres or less   **B.** 200 Litres or less   **C.** 300 Litres or less

(Answer: **C.** On average Metro Vancouverites use about 270 litres per person per day!)

### PART II: HOW DO WE USE WATER IN METRO VANCOUVER?

1. Pose the essential question: How do we use water in Metro Vancouver? Brainstorm some ways we use water every day.
2. Review and consider the categories of daily indoor water use in Metro Vancouver, including faucets, showers, toilets, leaks, clothes washers, baths, dishwashers and other (see the Daily Indoor Water Use Cards provided).
3. Distribute the Daily Indoor Water Use Cards. Discuss these questions:
  - Which water use do you think represents the highest average daily household water use?
  - Which water use represents the lowest average daily household water use?

4. Arrange the Daily Indoor Water Use Cards in a sequence from lowest to highest use. When the sequence is completed, discuss the following questions:
  - Why do you think this is the correct order?
  - How much water do you think we use per day for each category?
  - Does water use change seasonally? How so?
  - What do you want to know more about?
5. Compare your sequence of cards to the Daily Indoor Water Use in Metro Vancouver Answer Key. Discuss the following to reflect on your learning:
  - What surprised you the most?
  - What questions do you have now?

### EXTENSION QUESTIONS

- How do you think water is used at your school?
- What ideas and opportunities do you have to use water more wisely?
- What water conservation actions are happening at your home, school or community?

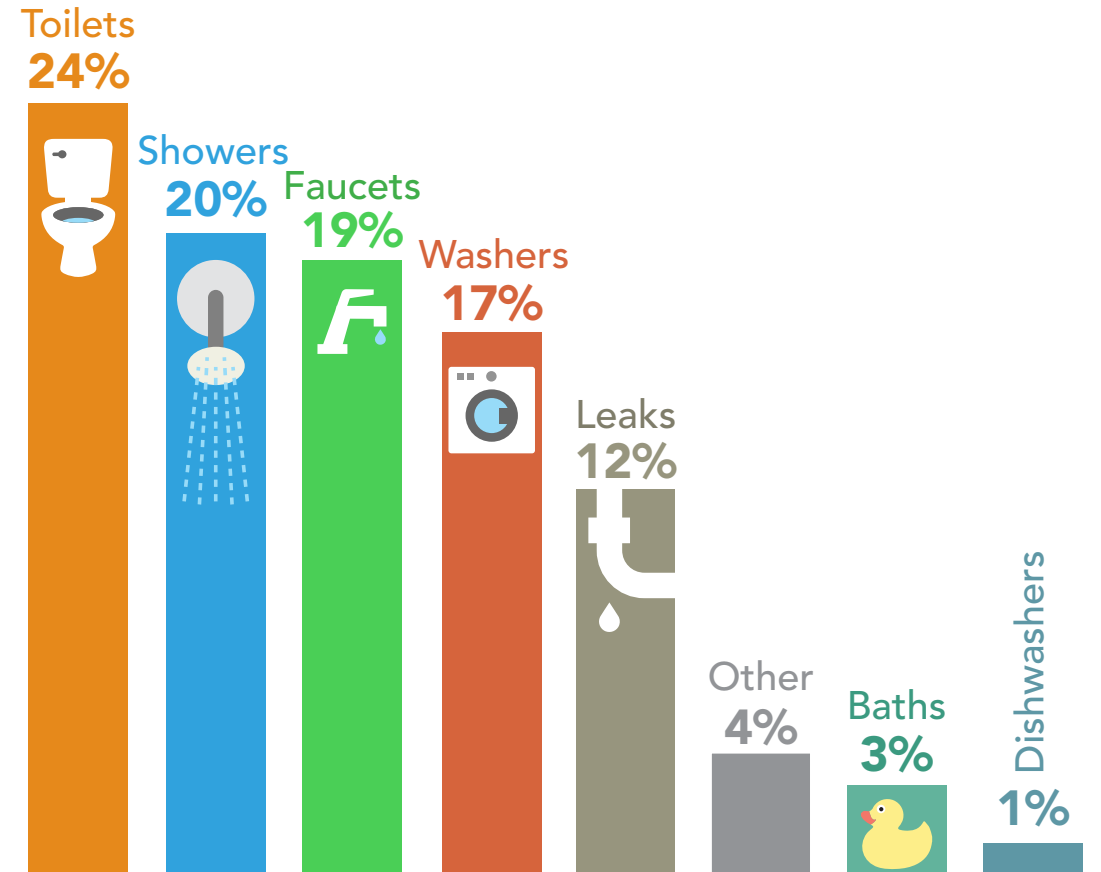


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**ANSWER KEY** DAILY INDOOR WATER USE IN METRO VANCOUVER



*From Residential End Use of Water, Version 2. Water Research Foundation. 2016*

## LEARN MORE!

Check out [Metro Vancouver K-12 Field Trips and Programs](#):

Where can you go to experience and learn more about water in Metro Vancouver?

Visit [Metro Vancouver's Water Conservation website](#):

How could the ideas and information there support water conservation in your school or community?



Find tools to support teaching, learning, and leadership about local sustainability priorities at [metrovancover.org/school-programs](http://metrovancover.org/school-programs)



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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

**METRO VANCOUVER DAILY INDOOR WATER USE CARDS**  
(Print double-sided and cut out set(s) of Water Use Cards.)



19%

24%

17%

20%

3%

12%

4%

1%