

# IN THE KITCHEN

## WASTEWATER & WATER CONSERVATION

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WaterSense PARTNER  
**\$\$\$'s DOWN THE DRAIN?**

**T**he Kitchen holds many special memories for all of us - turkey at Thanksgiving, the smell of fresh baked bread, chocolate chip cookies, apple pie - drain cleaner!

Hands up everyone who uses the kitchen sink or the garbage disposal as, well, a garbage disposal!

If you have a septic system, the tank can only contain so much solid 'stuff' before it starts to reappear in the most unwelcome of places - and usually when it's least welcome, perhaps Thanksgiving dinner!

There are three golden rules which will cut your water and electricity bills, prolong the life of your system and protect the environment.

1. If you don't need to, don't leave the faucet running.
2. Stop and **THINK** about what you're putting down the drain.
3. A sink is a sink. A trash can is for trash. The two are not interchangeable!



Dripping, leaky faucets can flood your septic system, or municipal sewer, with gallons of expensive, clean drinking water.

Just imagine what that cost is when the hot water tap is dripping? Fix it!

Remember - tap water costs a fraction versus bottled water and is held to a higher standard of purity. Keep a pitcher of cool water in your refrigerator rather than running the faucet until it's cold.



## Weekly Tips

### Monday

#### Washing Vegetables

When washing fruits and vegetables, do so in a bowl of water rather than running a faucet. Some may just need wiping with a clean damp cloth.



### Tuesday

#### GET THE GREASE OUT!!

Bacon, burgers, last night's french fry oil - none of this should go down the drain. It clogs pipes both at your home and the treatment plant. Put cooking oil in a can or jar, wipe out greasy pans and dispose of in the trash.

### Wednesday

#### Save Your Hands - Save The Planet!

Caustic cleaning products aren't good for you or our water resources. Consider cheaper, less toxic, alternatives such as ordinary baking soda.

### Thursday

#### Energy Star Pays You Back

Did you know a WaterSense™ labeled dishwasher uses a fraction of the water versus running a faucet? Go to: [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)



### Friday

#### Garbage In, Garbage Out

The convenience of a garbage disposal can be a blessing but a curse to your space limited septic system. Consider composting, if you can, or bagging food scraps in the freezer until trash day.