

Quiz: Water Conservation

Question 1

Which of the following indoor residential actions typically yields the largest potential reduction in total daily household water consumption?

- A) Replacing an older 3.5-5 gallon per flush (GPF) toilet with a high-efficiency (HE) model (1.28 GPF or less).
- B) Installing low-flow aerators on all bathroom and kitchen faucets.
- C) Running the clothes washer only when fully loaded.
- D) Fixing a slow, consistent drip from a single kitchen sink faucet.

Question 2

A homeowner in an arid climate wants to reduce their reliance on municipal potable water for landscape maintenance. Which combination of conservation strategies specifically addresses this goal through water reuse and demand reduction?

- A) Groundwater Pumping and Drip Irrigation.
- B) Gray Water Recycling and Xeriscaping.
- C) Desalination and Rainwater Harvesting.
- D) Aeration and Permeable Pavement.

Answer Key

1. Answer: A

Toilets are historically the single largest indoor water consumer in the average home. Upgrading an older, high-volume toilet to a modern HE model (which uses less than 1.6 gallons per flush) can save thousands of gallons annually, often representing the most significant potential reduction in indoor use.

2. Answer: B

Xeriscaping is the practice of using drought-tolerant or native plants, which drastically reduces the demand for irrigation water. Gray Water Recycling involves treating and reusing household wastewater (from sinks, showers, and laundry, but not toilets) for non-potable uses like landscape irrigation, thus reusing water that would otherwise be wasted.