

# did you know?

smart water can save you a bundle.

Advertising has led consumers to believe that water in a bottle is better than tap water, even though as much as 40 percent of bottled water came from the tap in the first place.

**Instead of Bottled Water, Choose Tap Water**



Our water and sewer pipes are aging and need expensive repairs and upgrades, but federal funding for water infrastructure has declined rapidly over the past 20 years.

**We Need a Clean Water Trust Fund to Keep Our Water and Sewer Systems Public**

Visit [www.foodandwaterwatch.org/water/trust-fund](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/water/trust-fund) for more information

**see our tips inside...**



## tips for conserving water at home

- Place a bucket under your shower while you wait for the water to get warm, and use the water for household plants.
- Shorten your shower by one or two minutes and save hundreds of gallons of water a year. Install a low-flow showerhead and save even more water.
- Install dual-flush toilets or place a plastic jug filled with water in your toilet tank.
- Consider replacing grass and other water-intensive plants in your yard with native and drought-tolerant plants.

For more information visit [www.foodandwaterwatch.org](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org) or visit us on Facebook

# smart water guide

**Clean, Affordable Water for All**

**food&waterwatch**



**2009**

# here's the scoop.

## ✓ Instead of Bottled Water, Choose Tap Water

**\$** Bottled water costs up to **1,000 times more than tap water.**

*Bottled water costs consumers anywhere from \$0.89 to \$8.26 per gallon, while tap water costs \$.002 per gallon.*



**The production and transport of bottled water contributes to global climate change.**

*Bottled water production and transport uses as much as 2,000 times more energy than it takes to produce tap water. Nearly 86% of all empty plastic bottles end up in our landfills, rivers or oceans.*

## ✓ Keep Our Water and Sewer Systems Public

**\$** Water corporations raise consumer water rates to generate profits for their shareholders.

*A survey of 22 regions found private utilities charge an average of 30% more for water than public utilities.*



**Water corporations often cut jobs to boost their bottom line. As a result, sewer upkeep can decline, causing major sewage spills.**



**Bottled water is less regulated than tap water.**

*Tap water is tested hundreds of times a month and the results are made available to consumers, while water bottlers are only required to conduct one test per week.*



**Water corporations are primarily accountable to their shareholders, while public operators are accountable to the taxpayers and ratepayers who fund their systems.**

# here's what you can do

- **Take the pledge** to choose tap water over bottled water.
- **Read your water quality report** if you have concerns about your tap water.
- **Ask your favorite restaurants** to stop selling non-carbonated bottled water.
- **Ask your federal representatives** to support the Clean Water Trust Fund.
- **Recommend** that your water management board establish or expand water conservation and efficiency measures.
- **Conserve water at your home** and encourage others to conserve as well.