


Water Conservation at the Georgia Aquarium




Water conservation is a concern of the Aquarium and we are taking the necessary measures to ensure our water supply is plentiful. Read below what the aquarium is doing to conserve and learn what you can do around your home to do your part.

Georgia Aquarium Water Conservation Measures:

- Observing the outdoor watering ban on all our landscaping. We are looking at replacing current landscaping features with low or no water plantings as a permanent alternative.
- Shutting off re-supply to all non-essential water features, such as waterfall, atrium lake, and shrimp boat moat. We are exploring non-water displays in the atrium lake and shrimp boat moat going forward.
- Upgrading facility to add waterless urinals that save up to 40,000 gallons of water each per year. With so many guests, this measure alone may save over 1,000,000 gallons of water per year. The urinals are on back-order, this will take weeks to months before completion.
- Exploring every opportunity to conserve water, such as recycling cooling condensation. It is our facilities and maintenance team's number 2 priority after taking care of the animals
- Most important, we have a huge opportunity to educate here through our staff and volunteers on the floor, signage/displays, and website about ways individuals can conserve water. We will be developing methods to take advantage of this opportunity

Georgia Aquarium Water Use

- All Georgia Aquarium exhibits are closed systems in which the water is filtered, treated, as required, and returned to the exhibit. The Aquarium recycles and re-uses as much water as possible within the limits of providing our animals with the best care.
 - Our water consumption in caring for our animals and accommodating our guests is similar to the amount of water used by any one of the many downtown hotels.
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Water Conservation at Home

Chattahoochee River Facts

The Chattahoochee River arises as a cold-water stream at an elevation of about 3000 feet in the northeast Georgia mountains above Helen in Union County.

The river flows 430 miles to Lake Seminole at the Florida line where it joins the Flint River to form the Apalachicola River, which then flows across the Florida Panhandle into the Gulf of Mexico.

The "Hooch" supplies about 70% of Metro Atlanta's drinking water. Its other uses include: industrial supply, irrigation, power generation and recreation.

The water in the Chattahoochee is currently the subject of an ongoing dispute among Georgia, Florida and Alabama regarding use and allocation. Demand will only increase, so conflicts of use will continue and get worse.

Conserve Water Indoors

- Use water reduction devices on faucets, showers and toilets. (One drop per second wastes 2700 gallons of water per year)
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth, shaving or washing your face
- When you run the tap and wait for the hot water, collect that water and use it to water your plants or lawn (you'll be amazed at how much water is wasted this way!)
- Only wash clothes when you have a full tub of laundry or adjust water level for small loads
- Do not use running water to defrost food
- Keep a refillable container (not bottles) of drinking water in the refrigerator for cool drinks

Conserve Water Outdoors

- Water lawn in early morning or late evening to avoid evaporation and water loss by wind drift
- Use a broom or blower to remove debris from your sidewalk and driveway and not the hose
- Consider using a commercial car wash because they recycle water
- Reclaim rainwater for watering garden

General Water Conservation

- Follow water conservation rules set in place by your local government
- Encourage others to follow water conservation measures (employer, restaurants, schools, etc...)
- Volunteer with local organizations to promote water conservation (libraries, schools, businesses, etc...)
- Volunteer with organizations to discuss future water conservation plans