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**From:** Lynn, Tricia [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D8747BA49CDE485EA4AC58DBF09C3DCD-TRICIA SLUSSER]  
**Sent:** 5/1/2018 8:10:42 PM  
**To:** Ex. 6  
**Subject:** RE: Water conservation article

Alyssa—

On background:

**1. Does your data also show a decrease in water usage nationwide? Also, what are the reasons for this shift?**

Nationally, there has been a decrease in domestic water use on a per person (per capita) basis. The USGS conducts a survey of water use every 5 years (<https://water.usgs.gov/watuse/>). Their 2015 results for public supply and domestic use were released earlier this year. They show that the national average per capita domestic use for 2015 was 82 GPCD. This compares with 89 GPCD for 2010 and 100 GPCD in 2005. Many water utilities have also seen decreases in their per capita demand (<http://www.waterrf.org/PublicReportLibrary/4031.pdf>). This is due in large part to more efficient products made possible by federal plumbing standards in the 1990's and the voluntary ENERGY STAR and WaterSense programs. For example, older toilets used 3.5 to 6 gallons per flush (gpf). The Energy Policy Act of 1992 changed the maximum toilet flush volume to 1.6 gpf and the voluntary WaterSense program labels toilets that use no more than 1.28 gpf. There are WaterSense labeled toilets in the marketplace that use 0.8 gpf. This is also demonstrated by a residential end use study conducted by the Water Research Foundation (<http://www.waterrf.org/PublicReportLibrary/4309A.pdf>).

**2. I would also like to include some water conservation tips, and information for our readers on why it is so important to use water efficiently.**

It's always important to use water efficiently, especially in times of drought and during the summer when water demand is at its highest due to outdoor water use. WaterSense has a variety of tips that the reporter can review to provide to readers (see <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/start-saving>). We would also recommend that he refer people to our website ([www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)).

Best,

Tricia

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Tricia Lynn  
Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. EPA  
Office: 202.564.2615

**From:** Alyssa Choiniere [mailto:Ex. 6]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 6:09 PM  
**To:** Lynn, Tricia <lynn.tricia@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Water conservation article

Dear Ms. Lynn,

I am working on an article about water conservation and trends as a writer for the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Through our data we have seen a significant decrease in water usage, and I wanted to see if this is a national trend. Does your data also show a decrease in water usage nationwide? Also, what are the reasons for this shift? I would also like to include some water conservation tips, and information for our readers on why it is so important to use water efficiently.

Thanks so much for your time.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Choiniere