Do you know...

that every faucet, sink, bathtub, shower, hose, sprinkler, dishwasher, washing machine and car wash in the city uses water from Lake Michigan? While Chicagoans are fortunate to have access to a seemingly unlimited supply of water, we should never take it for granted.



You can help

Save the Source!

Conserve water every day. Try these steps...



Water your lawn during early morning or evening hours or grow native plants that require little watering.



Install water-saving fixtures and appliances in your home.



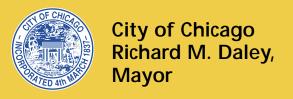
in your sinks and toilets.

Even repairing a slowly dripping faucet can save 5 gallons a day.

Repair leaks



Turn off the faucet while you brush your teeth or shave.



Doyou Market Strain Control of the C

that during heavy rains the sewer system can fill up? In some cases, a rainwater/wastewater mix can be discharged, untreated, into our river system. Full sewers can also back up into basements.



You can help

Save the Source!

Reduce basement backups and river pollution by preventing excess rainwater from entering the sewers when it rains. Try these steps...



absorb more rainwater

than traditional turf

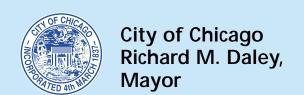
landscapes.



Disconnect your downspout. If this is something that makes sense for your home, you can allow rainwater from your roof to run into your yard or garden, instead of through your gutter and into the sewer.

Let the rain soak through. Pavements such as asphalt and concrete don't allow rain water through.

Instead, rain that hits pavement collects chemicals and oils and washes them into the sewer. By using gravel, crushed rock or stone pavers, you let clean rainwater soak through to the ground where it belongs.



know..

where the rain goes? Rainwater that falls onto the streets, sidewalks and parking lots flows into our city sewers. As it washes across those hard surfaces, it picks up motor oil, litter and chemicals.

Conserve Chicago Together Action H₂O

During a storm, huge amounts of rainwater can overtax the sewers, allowing polluted water to overflow into our river system. Our water resources are vital for drinking, recreation and quality of life. It is important that we not pollute them.

You can help

Save the Source!

Lower the amount of pollution that ends up in our waterways by reducing the amount of pollution that goes into our sewers in the first place. Try these steps...



Reduce or eliminate the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides on your lawn and garden. When it rains, these chemicals wash into our sewers and our river system.

City of Chicago Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Always put litter

in its place. Litter

on beaches attracts

seagulls. These birds

leave behind their

waste, which can

increase the levels of

bacteria in the water.

Never discard chemicals, pharmaceuticals, litter or motor oil down any drain or **Sewer.** These substances can contaminate our rivers and lakes.