

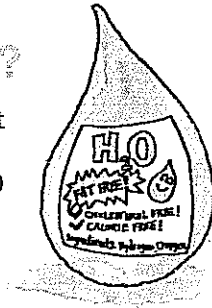
## Tap vs. Bottled

### What's the Difference?

While both are safe and healthy, the biggest differences are in the price and quality testing. Bottled water costs 2,000 to 3,000 times more than tap water.

You pay about \$2 for a bottle of water (many water bottling companies use municipal tap water as their sources), but less than a penny for a gallon of clean, quality tap water.

Also, bottled water is a "food product" regulated by the Food and Drug Administration that tests water on a quarterly basis. Oklahoma City tests its tap water 12 times a day, exceeding the Environmental Protection Agency's requirement of every four hours.



At the City's three water treatment plants, online analyzers test continuous streams of water, and operations staff tests the water every two hours – on raw water, treated water and water leaving the plant. Operators also conduct quality assurance and quality-control processes to ensure the accuracy of their tests.

In addition, chemists in the water quality laboratory conduct weekly and monthly tests. The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality tests the treated water at each plant on a monthly basis.

Now that you know about the rigorous water treatment and testing process, why buy bottled water? You can save a lot of money at the tap and enjoy the best tasting water in North America. Oklahoma City's Water Quality Division took first place in the American Water Works Association annual tasting competition in June 2007.

**Water, water everywhere . . .**

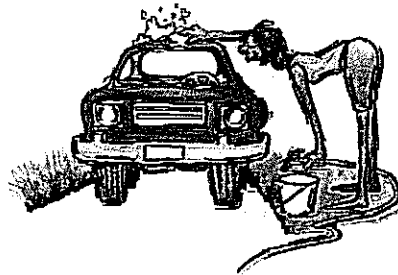
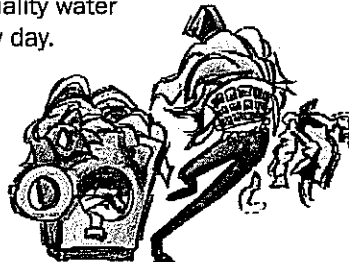


**. . . and millions of gallons to drink.**

Oklahoma City's water treatment plants deliver about 90 million gallons of clean, quality water to about 190,000 households every day. But did you know that we drink only about 1% of that treated water?

Here's generally how we use our public drinking water:

Laundry	9%
Cleaning	7%
Bathing	8%
Flushing	11%
Leaks	6%
Outdoors	58%



## Water Conservation Tips

A leaky faucet that drips just two tablespoons a minute can waste 15 gallons of water a day, 105 gallons a week and 5,460 gallons a year.

When you use the toilet as a wastebasket, you waste water. A toilet uses 5 to 7 gallons of water per flush. Low-flow toilets use only about 1.5 gallons per flush.

You use about 2 gallons of water if you leave it on while brushing your teeth or shaving. Instead, turn the water off and on again to rinse.

Water the lawn only when it needs it and in the early morning or late afternoon. Watering in the middle of the day allows most of the water to evaporate. Watering at night attracts bugs, mostly mosquitoes.

Use a broom instead of your hose to clean the driveway or sidewalk.

When cleaning a fish tank, water house plants with the dirty water. It's rich in nitrogen and phosphorous.

In a restaurant, every water glass used requires two glasses of water to wash and rinse it. Nearly 70 million meals are served each day in U.S. restaurants. More than 26 million gallons of water could be saved if one person in four declined the complimentary water.

If you water when it's windy, water will go everywhere but on the grass. Also, make sure the sprinkler is aimed at the lawn, not the street or sidewalk.