



Consider using a sensor-based autofill device to reduce unnecessary refilling of pools and increase leak detection. Forgetting to shut off fill water can make for a costly waste of water.



Splashing and water fights in your pool and spa can cause excessive amounts of water loss. To avoid splash out, reduce the water level of swimming pools to the lower half of the water line tile.



Use a pool cover to avoid evaporation and save energy on heating. A recent Cal Poly San Luis Obispo study found that solid pool covers can reduce swimming pool water evaporation by up to 95%.



Maintain proper pool chemistry year round to avoid the need to drain and refill your pool. Avoid draining the pool, unless needed for health and safety purposes, to fix leaks or for other major repairs.



Sweep instead of hosing down hard surfaces near the pool area.



If heated, reduce your pool and spa water temperature, especially while not in use. Warmer water evaporates more quickly.



The average backwash uses between 250 to 1,000 gallons of water per backwash, depending on pool and equipment size. Manually clean your filter to use less water and do a more thorough job.



Your swimming pool should lose no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch per day due to evaporation. Losing more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch per day in a pool running with no water features or heaters is considered a leak. Check the pool skimmer for cracks and perform a bucket or dye test, or seek assistance from a leak detection expert.

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### Tips for HOAs

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- Create a leak detection and prevention process and schedule for your management staff and/or pool service professional.
- Replace pool-adjacent landscaping with water efficient plants, drip or micro-spray irrigation, and install a weather-based irrigation controller.
- An average community-sized pool with no leaks or malfunctioning equipment generally uses no more than 15 ccf\*/month. If your pool's water usage is greater than 15 ccf/month, please contact the Water Use Efficiency Department at **949-453-5581** to request an on-site evaluation.

\*One ccf=748 gallons