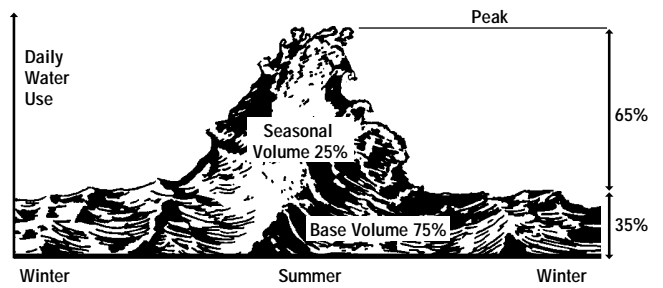


pruning branches that overhang roof, keeping leaf screens clean, checking tank and pump, replacing filters, and testing the water. A maintenance schedule and checklist based upon your particular system are recommended to ensure proper performance.

HOUSEHOLD WATER BUDGET

An easy way to calculate your daily water consumption is to review previous water bills, if you presently receive municipal water. Another method is to account for every water-using activity, including shower, bath, toilet flush, dishwashing run, washing machine load. A conserving household that has low-flow plumbing fixtures such as 1.6 gallon-per-flush toilets and 2.75 gallon-per-minute shower heads, now required by the Texas Plumbing Standards, might use 55 gallons or less of water per day per person and very conservative minded households might be able to reduce water use to as low as 35 gallons per person per day. However, for the purposes of designing a rainwater system, an estimate of 75 gallons per person per day for indoor use is advised to ensure adequate year-round indoor water supply – unless you are sure that all of your

BASE AND SEASONAL WATER USE IN TEXAS

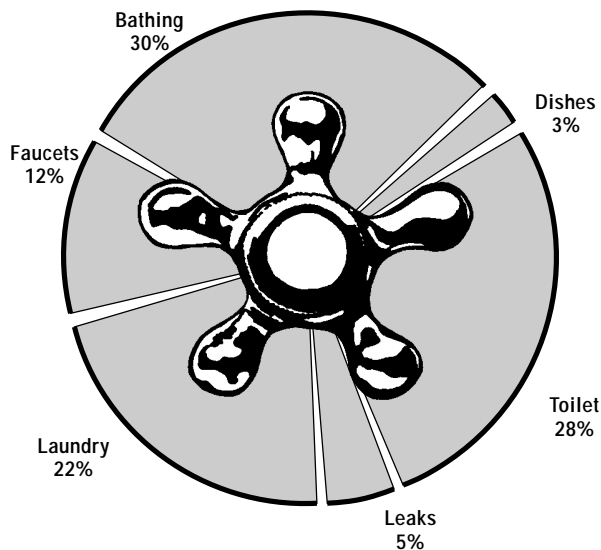


fixtures are the newer, more efficient ones and you plan to follow strict conservation practices. Complete the Household Water Consumption Chart on page 16 to see how your household’s water consumption compares with the recommended design allowance. See page 18 for outdoor use estimates.

While inside water use remains relatively level throughout the year, total water demand increases during the hot, dry summers due to increased lawn and garden watering, and decreases during the cool, wet winters when the garden is fallow and the lawn needs little attention. To determine your daily water budget, multiply the number of persons in the household times the average water consumption. Estimates of indoor household water use range from less than 55 gallons per person a day in a

HOME INDOOR WATER USE

Homes with older fixtures use about 75 gallons per person per day (GPCD)



Homes with water-saving fixtures use about 55 gallons per person per day (GPCD)

