



Take The Clean Water Challenge!

Complete this pledge card today to join the clean water challenge and be automatically entered into a drawing to win a free rain barrel and other great door prizes in 2009! Only Cherokee County residents who pledge 100 points or more are eligible to win door prizes.

www.ugaextension.com/cherokee

Questions? Call: 1-800-ASK-UGA1

In addition to my current clean water practices or actions, I pledge to:	Pledge Points	Check to Pledge
Not over fertilize my lawn and garden. Soil test to determine the amount of nutrients needed by my lawn and plants, if any.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build a rain garden to slow the flow of stormwater and provide areas where water can soak into the ground naturally.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use a 55-gallon rain barrel to capture rain water and divert potential run-off.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disconnect downspouts from storm drains and redirect roof drainage onto a lawn or garden (away from house's foundation) where water can soak into the ground.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle valuable nutrients from grass clippings by allowing them to naturally decompose on my lawn and reduce the need for one annual fertilizer application.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep storm drains and streets clean and free from grass clippings, leaves, and debris.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use insecticides, herbicides, and other chemicals sparingly and be sure to carefully read and follow labeled application rates.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify insect and weed problems accurately before spraying. Remember, there are both good bugs and bad bugs and spraying may not always be needed.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consider using organic and/or integrated pest management control options first. Pesticides should always be a last resort tactic for insects, diseases, and weeds.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Replace part of my lawn with low maintenance, disease resistant, or native plants.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avoid soil compaction from heavy equipment or vehicles so rains can soak more deeply; core-aerate my lawn to correct soil compaction problems.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimize the use of concrete surfaces; use pavers or stone as an alternative.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slow water movement/runoff in high erosion areas and steep slopes; use mulch, straw, grass, stone, or soil-berms as diversions.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wash cars/trucks over grassy areas instead of on a driveway so water soaks in.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn off irrigation when it rains or install a "smart irrigation controller" that adjusts for rain.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adjust sprinklers to reduce overspray and runoff onto sidewalks, driveways, etc.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gently water-in insecticide, herbicide and fertilizer applications according to labeled instructions. Postpone application if heavy rain is predicted within 48 hours.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not fertilize or apply pesticides/herbicides within 25 feet of streams, rivers, or wells.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do my duty: pick up and properly dispose of animal and pet wastes.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never "flush" harsh chemicals, paints, oils, medications, or non-biodegradable items down the drain.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce, reuse, and recycle trash and waste whenever possible.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Make a compost pile for yard debris and kitchen scraps instead of dumping in a ditch. Use garbage disposal unit in the sink less often.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Add mulch or straw (2"-3") around trees and plants as a natural weed barrier and use less weed killers. Cover all bare-dirt with mulch/straw, grass, or other vegetation.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never disturb soil within 50 feet of stream banks, ponds, or waterways; keep vegetated.*	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
<small>*The Cherokee County stream buffer ordinance requires 50 feet of undisturbed soil and vegetation on each side of streams and rivers.</small>		
Total Clean Water Practices Pledged:	<input type="text"/>	Points!

Full Name: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip code: _____ County: _____ Phone: _____

How did you hear about the Clean Water Challenge: _____

I would like to receive email updates on educational programs, conservation tips, and other incentives from Cherokee County Cooperative Extension: Yes!* or No.

*Enter Email Address to receive updates: _____

Please Return to: Cherokee Co. Extension, 100 North Street, Suite G21, Canton, GA 30114

Extra Points:

In addition to my current clean water practices or actions, I pledge to:	Pledge Points	Check to Pledge
Hire a licensed contractor with soil and erosion certification when doing major excavation or any soil disturbing activities over a large area.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep chemicals stored in waterproof containers in a garage, shed or other area that is protected from stormwater.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Test well water for nitrates and bacteria once per year.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have septic tank inspected and/or pumped every 3 or 4 years.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not park cars or put heavy equipment above the septic tank or drain field.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mow my lawn more frequently so grass clippings are smaller and decompose faster. No raking required!	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wash cars/trucks at a commercial car wash that recycles water.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not plant trees and shrubs over septic tank drain fields that can clog the system with roots. Plant grass instead.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep well heads sealed and properly protected from accidental contamination.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leave a "buffer zone" with at least 50 feet of vegetation near stream banks, ponds, or waterways. Avoid mowing this buffer strip and getting clippings/debris in water. *	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep my soil pH balanced so plants can use fertilizer instead of wasting nutrients.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use cat litter or other absorbent materials to clean up oil, gas, or pesticide spills on driveways; double bag and dispose of properly.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never throw trash out the window of my car and report people who illegally dump or litter to the authorities.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use back-flow prevention valves and vacuum breakers on all outdoor hose bibs.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use "Amnesty Days" sponsored by Recycling Centers to dispose of electronics, appliances, metals, tires, etc.	10 points	<input type="checkbox"/>
*The Cherokee County stream buffer ordinance requires 50 feet of undisturbed soil and vegetation on each side of streams and rivers.		
Total Clean Water Practices Pledged (add to front):		Points!



Take The 40-Gallon Challenge!

Complete this pledge card today to join the 40 gallon challenge and be automatically entered into a drawing to win a free rain barrel and other great water saving door prizes in 2009! Only Cherokee County residents who pledge saving 40 gallons or more are eligible to win door prizes.

In addition to my existing water conservation practices or actions in the past, I pledge to:

Indoors	Daily Savings*	Check to Pledge
Run the dishwasher only when full	2 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not leave water running while rinsing dishes	5 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn off water while brushing teeth (twice daily)	8 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shorten showers by 2 minutes (once daily)	5 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fill the bathtub half full while bathing	18 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not use the toilet as a wastebasket (once daily)	2 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wash only full loads of laundry and cut back by one load per week	5 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fix a leaky faucet	15 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fix a leaky toilet	30 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install aerators with flow restrictors on kitchen/bathroom faucets (3)	14 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchase a new, more efficient clothes washer	10 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Replace old, non-efficient toilet with new low-flush toilet (4 flushes daily)	8 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoors	Daily Savings*	Check to Pledge
Make a compost pile instead of using the garbage disposal	4 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use a 55-gallon rain barrel to capture rain water for watering landscape or garden	5 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks (twice weekly)	22 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water yard after midnight and before 10 a.m.	20 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce overwatering by reducing irrigation cycles by 2 minutes (5 irrigation stations, watering three times weekly)	80 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce overwatering by eliminating one irrigation cycle per week	30 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adjust sprinklers to reduce overspray onto sidewalks, driveways, etc.	20 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repair pipe leak or broken sprinkler head (1)	20 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Add mulch (2"-3") around trees and plants (1,000 sq. ft.)	25 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install water-efficient drip irrigation system	20 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install a "smart irrigation controller" that adjusts for temperature and precipitation	40 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use automatic car wash that recycles water instead of hand washing cars (weekly)	18 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Replace part of my lawn or high water-use plants with native or drought tolerant plants (1,000 sq. ft)	40 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repair any leaks around pool or spa pumps (1)	20 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repair any leaking hose bibs	20 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install a pool cover to reduce evaporation	30 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install spa cover to reduce evaporation	5 gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Actual water savings from these actions depends on a number of factors, including a household's water pressure, number of residents, age/efficiency of plumbing devices, size of landscapes and irrigation systems, personal behaviors, etc. These daily estimates for an average household are provided solely as an educational guideline to help the public understand and appreciate the potential of these actions to help the region save water.

Total Savings Pledged: **gallons per day!**

Full Name: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip code: _____ County: _____ Phone: _____

How did you hear about the 40-gallon challenge: _____

I would like to receive email updates on educational programs, conservation tips, and other incentives from Cherokee County Cooperative Extension: Yes!* or No.

***Enter Email Address to receive updates:** _____

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