Water Savings ….

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Inside the home ….

:

Reduce water use …

Minneapolis
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Kitchen:	**Approximate Savings:**
Sink-install an aerator.	25-40%

More on aerators: http://energyhawk.com/waterheater/waterheater6.php

Bathroom:

Shower (.5 – 2 gallons per minute vs. 3-7 gallons per minute conventional old showerhead)

Install a low-flow shower head. ($5-$80) 30-60%

*Best savings….a low-flow showerhead with a button for stopping the flow while you soap up-the button lets you keep the same water temperature while the water is temporarily shut off.

More on showerheads: http://www.energyhawk.com/waterheater/waterheater7.php

Toilets (new vs. conventional post-1980's toilet)

Ultra low flush-gravity toilet ($100-up)	50%
Install a dual flush mechanism ($30.)	60%
Install a dual flush toilet ($175-up)	60%
Pressure assisted flush ($150-up)	65%

More on toilets: http://www.mwra.com/publications/ulftoilets.pdf

Laundry room:

Washing machines (new vs. conventional top loader)

Get a front loading washing machine. ($700 – up) 40-75%

(Front loaders spin more water out, saving money and time on drying clothes.)

*To compare washing machines look for the 'Energy Factor' which is a measurement of the capacity vs. the energy consumption.

More on fixtures, ratings and water management:

Water fixtures product information: http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/pp/index.htm

Water management plans - http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/pdfs/29267-6.1.pdf

Energy Star info http://www.energystar.gov.

Water Savings ....

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Outside the home ....

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Reduce water use ...

Construction Code Services

From the outside spigot:

Plant grasses and gardens which are hardy in this climate and low maintenance.

http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG6065.html

Use a rain barrel to collect water for watering the garden.

http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater/green-initiatives/rain-barrel.asp

Place mulch around plants to prevent evaporation and minimize the need to water.

Saving on City Storm Water Fees:

Storm water management plans may qualify for a reduction in your storm water fees.
http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater/fee/

The Storm water Credit system provides:

*Up to a 50 percent credit (reduction) in your storm water utility fee for management tools/practices that address storm water quality

*50 percent or 100 percent credit (reduction) in your storm water utility fee for management tools/ practices that address storm water quantity.

Minimize storm water runoff:

Roofs – rain barrels, rain gardens and green roofs can collect or absorb the rain falling on the roof and minimize run-off

Rain gardens are designed and constructed to collect and filter rain water is as it is absorbed into the ground. http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater/green-initiatives/rain-garden.asp

Green roofs are covered with a waterproof membrane and use a special light weight growing medium for the plants. http://www.mngreenroofs.org/what-is-a-green-roof

Pavements – Pavers, asphalt and concrete are now available that are pervious, allowing rainwater to be absorbed by the ground. Rain gardens can be used to collect and absorb rainwater diverted from paved areas.

More information on conservation, efficiency and green building:

City of Minneapolis http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ccs/greenbuilding.asp

State of Minnesota http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=Energy

Note: Savings are approximate and can vary greatly based on usage.