

Ladies Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas

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Home Economist



ABOUT CONSERVING WATER

Conserving water in the home does not necessarily mean a change in lifestyle. It may only mean cutting back and reducing water or taking a look at the way you now water. Economical use of water could result in lower utility bills or keep them from going higher.

As you and other family members go about performing daily personal and household chores, follow these conservation reminders to reduce water use.

Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator to eliminate running the water until it gets cold.

Don't use the disposal for food waste, compost vegetable peelings and other food wastes or put them in the garbage if convenient or appropriate.

Don't let faucets run for washing or rinsing dishes. Fill a container with water for this purpose or put in the stop in the sink drain.

Brush teeth before shaving. Use the hot water faucet allowing the cold water in the line to get hot

enough for shaving instead of wasting water (or letting it run down the drain) until it gets hot enough for shaving.

Use a glass of water to rinse your mouth after brushing your teeth rather than running water over the toothbrush and using the toothbrush to rinse your mouth.

Take shorter showers. Turn the shower off while soaping if the showerhead is equipped with a shutoff valve.

Fix leaking faucets. A leakage of 90 drops per minute adds up to 300 gallons of water lost per month - or over 3000 gallons a year "down the drain."

ABOUT HOME HANDLING OF HARD CHEESE

Most varieties of hard cheese will keep for a few weeks in your home. Proper temperature and a tight wrapping to prevent air contamination are the keys to preventing spoilage.

Hard cheese, such as cheddar, mozzarella and Swiss are cured for a week by cheese manufacturers. They are cut and wrapped in

various films by retail stores or prepackaged by cheese manufacturers or processors.

The greatest concern is mold contamination from the air. Cheese provides an

excellent medium for growth, because it contains moisture and nutrients. Keep cheese tightly wrapped in plastic or other film to minimize exposure to air.

Hard cheese should not be kept out of the refrigerator for more than a few minutes, unless you plan to serve and eat all of it. Exposure to air and warm temperatures dries cheese out and causes the fat to melt. Then the surface becomes oily.

Keep hard cheese at a temperature of 40°F or

below. Freezing changes the body and texture. After freezing the cheese crumbles and should be used for cooking, rather than slicing for table use.

Use cheese wrapped in a heat-seal film within two weeks of purchase. Vacuum packed cheese keeps longer. Keep all varieties of hard cheese tightly wrapped and cold.



(Continued from Page C8)

food stand at Herra's sale in Rawlinsville on Wednesday, February 25.

Games were played until everyone won a prize. Refreshments were served by co-hostess Libby Ann Steinberg and Sally Walton.

Berks Co. Society 9

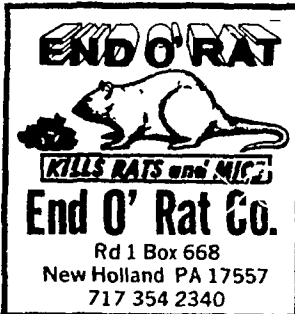
The January 7 meeting was held in the home of Joan Hafer, with ten members present.

Installation of new officers was conducted by Katherine Yanos. Installed were Pat Haas-president, Karen Schreier-vice president, Kim Casner-secretary, Joan Hafer-treasurer.

Fammy Gehman was installed as a new member.

The meeting ended with a wine and cheese tasting party. Each member brought their favorite wine, and Joan Hafer supplied the cheese and crackers.

The February 4 meeting will be held at the home of Sue Hendricks where members will see a fire film shown by Ron Henry.



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