



# Water saving **tips**

Water saving tips for your  
home, garden and pool

# From the bathroom to the backyard, there are simple things you can do that could save thousands of litres of water each year.

Australia is the driest inhabited continent on earth, yet we are one of the greatest consumers of water per capita. On average, each Australian uses 103,000 litres of water in the home each year.

However, by using the practical tips on the following pages, it's easy to save water in your home and in the garden. Water is a precious resource and we all have a responsibility to look after it.

**Become a Watersaver today and do your bit for our future.**

## Water Restrictions

Saving water is everyone's business. Ensure you're up to date on the current water restrictions, so you continue to use water efficiently.

Visit [qwc.qld.gov.au](http://qwc.qld.gov.au) or phone **1300 789 906** for the latest water restriction information.

## A Watersaver note for tenants and landlords

It's up to everyone to be water efficient and that includes tenants. New laws allow lessors (landlords) to pass on the full water consumption costs to tenants, provided that minimum criteria have been met. For more information on these criteria and changes to water billing, visit [rta.qld.gov.au](http://rta.qld.gov.au) or phone **1300 000 928**.



## Don't forget to check for leaks

- **Leaking toilets can waste between 4000 and 95,000 litres of water per year.**
- **Just one dripping tap can waste up to 5000 litres a month.**

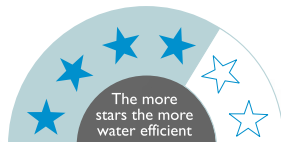
After turning off all taps and water using appliances in and around your property, check the water meter for signs of movement. If the dials on the meter are moving there could be a leak. If there is no movement at the meter, take a reading and do not use any water including the toilet for at least 30 minutes and then take another reading. If the meter has increased, there is a leak.

For more information contact Allconnex Water on **1300 000 928**. To find an accredited plumber in your area, visit [mpaq.com.au](http://mpaq.com.au).



# home

## Water saving tips for your home



Look out for the WELS 'star rating' label when you buy your new appliance and check [www.waterrating.gov.au](http://www.waterrating.gov.au) for a list of water efficient products that can save money and help the environment.

### Bathroom

- Install a water efficient '3 Star' rated showerhead and you can save around 20,000 litres of water every year, save on your water bill and make savings on your energy bill.
- Reduce your shower time to four minutes. Even an efficient running shower can use nine litres per minute.
- Don't let the tap run when brushing your teeth or shaving. This will save up to eight litres per minute.
- Use the dual flush option on a dual flush toilet.
- If you don't already have one, install a dual flush toilet. You'll save up to eight litres of water every time you use the half flush instead of the full flush.

### Laundry

- If you buy a new washing machine, choose a water efficient front-loading model with a minimum '4 Star' rating. This will save up to 50 litres every wash.
- Make sure each cycle is a full load, or adjust the water level to suit the size of the load. This will save up to 10 litres each wash.
- There may be no need to wash every day; you can sort and wash bigger loads more efficiently.

### Kitchen

- Half fill the sink to rinse dishes or clean fruit and vegetables. A running tap uses up to eight litres of water per minute.
- A water efficient dishwasher uses less water than washing your dishes in the sink.
- Wait until you have a full load before turning on the dishwasher and use a water saving setting. This will conserve 10-30 litres for every load.
- When buying a dishwasher, choose a water efficient model. Look for the water efficient labelling.
- Install flow controlled aerators on taps. You could save more than six litres per minute.





## outdoors

### Water saving tips for your garden and pool

To help you make informed decisions about products and services that will help to save water in your home and garden visit [smartwatermark.org](http://smartwatermark.org)



### Outdoors

- Always be aware of water restrictions.
- Use a broom to sweep paved outdoor areas instead of hosing them down.
- Always use a trigger hose, bucket or watering can when washing your car or watering the garden.
- Wash the car on the lawn – the lawn will get a good watering at the same time.
- Minimise lawn areas and plant water efficient native trees and plants.
- Collect your shower water so you can reuse to water your garden.
- Install a rainwater tank to use in the garden as an alternative to our water supply.

### Pool

- A pool cover is the number one water and energy conservation device for your pool. A pool cover can reduce water losses to evaporation by as much as 90 per cent. This could help save up to 25,000 litres per year.
- Top up your pool with rainwater runoff.
- When purchasing a new pool filter, look for a water efficient model.
- Consider how often you backwash the filter as this may significantly reduce water loss.
- Inspect your pool and spa frequently – under pressure, a tiny leak in a plumbing system can cause losses of more than 3000 litres in one day.

### Garden

- Always be aware of water restrictions.
- Only water your garden on your designated day. We recommend in the afternoon, to reduce the loss of water through evaporation.
- Aerate the lawn to allow water to be absorbed more easily.
- Select drought tolerant plants to reduce water needs.
- Use a good mulch – mulching can prevent up to 70 per cent evaporation, improves soil and discourages weeds.
- Compost food scraps, lawn clippings and garden waste – compost enriches the soil by helping it to absorb and hold more water.
- Minimise lawn areas or select drought resistant grass varieties.
- Add water crystals to soil to enhance water retention by up to 35 per cent.
- Improve water-holding capacity by planning your garden, so that pathways feed water runoff onto garden beds.
- Enjoy and observe seasonal changes to discover what works best for your garden.
- Install flow controlled aerators on taps. You could save more than six litres per minute.



By working together to conserve and manage our precious resource, we are ensuring our future is on tap.

Visit [allconnex.com.au](http://allconnex.com.au) and learn more about our comprehensive community, school and industry water conservation programs.

## **Allconnex Water**

Servicing the water needs of the Gold Coast, Logan and Redland districts.

Allconnex Water is the specialist water and wastewater business for the Gold Coast, Logan and Redland districts. Having inherited a wealth of water knowledge and valuable technical and customer service experience – we connect with more than 850,000 consumers to deliver safe, reliable and high quality water services.



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