



Water and Energy - How to Use Less

Top 6 Tips:

- 1 **Your bathroom** - use a 5 minute shower timer, a great water saver combined with a 3 star AAA shower head delivering 7-9 litres of water per minute, save up to 15-20% water use.
- 2 **Your kitchen** - use the dishwasher eco setting and save 5-10% on water use and if you're buying a dishwasher, try a water efficient model.
- 3 **Your laundry** - if you're buying a washing machine, try a water efficient, front loader and save up to 10% water use.
- 4 Regularly check for **water leaks** in your home and garden.
- 5 **Use a trigger nozzle** for watering to reduce over-watering and a water timer connected to the hose and save up to 5-10% on water use.
- 6 **Plant your garden** with plants that need little water and are drought resistant save time and money up to 15% on watering.



Do all or any of these and you're on your way to a water & energy saving lifestyle! And there's more....

Your Kitchen accounts for approx 10% of your total water use.
Try These Simple Water & Energy Saving Tips for your Kitchen:

- 1 **Wash your vegs** in a sink 1/3 full of water or in a bowl rather than under a running tap.
- 2 **Boil the kettle** with just the amount you need for the job. and not extra - saves water and electricity in one go.
- 3 **Set your dishwasher** to the eco setting to save water and energy.
- 4 **Wait till you have a full load** before using your dishwasher - you'll save approx 10 litres of water each time. Less loads = less energy usage.
- 5 **Use a microwave, steamer or pressure cooker** for vegs. This takes less water and energy and preserves precious vitamins. If boiling, use just enough water to cover the food, keep the lid on during cooking and simmer gently rather than boiling rapidly.





Your Bathroom accounts for approx 15-20% of your total water use.

Try These Simple Water & Energy Saving Tips for your Bathroom:

- 1 **Wet your toothbrush** then brush your teeth with the tap turned off. Use a glass of water to rinse.
- 2 **Choose a low water use, 7 litres/minute or less, shower head.** The latest 3 star/AAA rating showerheads can give you a great shower and save 10 litres of water a minute using less hot water saves energy costs.
- 3 **The average shower is 7 minutes** - use a 5 minute timer and save both water & energy.
- 4 **If replacing your toilet** consider a dual flush that uses 4.5 litres full flush and 3 litre half flush.
- 5 **Reduce water in your toilet cistern.** A flow restrictor in your cistern reduces by half the amount of water each flush. Available at hardware stores.
- 6 **Avoid disposing of tissues,** insects, wet wipes etc in the toilet. Put them in the garbage and save water.
- 7 **Use rainwater.** It seems such a waste to use (potable) drinking water to flush toilets. A tank-to-toilet-flush pump system uses water from a rainwater tank to flush the toilet and only diverts to mains water if necessary. Talk to your plumber or local tank retailer for advice. Council has rebates in place for eligible properties for rainwater tanks and reuse. Contact Council's customer service staff for details.



Your Laundry accounts for approx 15-20% of your total water use.

Try These Simple Water & Energy Saving Tips for your Laundry:

- 1 **When washing several loads,** use the sud-saver option - if your machine has one.
- 2 **Wait till you have a full load** before washing - you'll save approx 10 litres of water each wash.
- 3 **Avoid setting your hot water system thermostat too high** this will waste electricity. Adding cold water to cool down very hot water wastes water too.
- 4 **Use rainwater.** As for toilet flushing, a rainwater tank system can be used for the washing machine by installing a second tap in the laundry. Council has rebates in place for eligible properties for rainwater tanks and reuse. Contact Council's customer service staff for details.

General Water Saving Tips

- 1 **Fix dripping taps** which can waste up to 20ml/minute or 30 litres/day per tap which is 3 buckets/day per tap or 1,100 buckets/year per tap.
- 2 **Fit a flow regulator** to reduce the water flow to 9 litres/minute or less in your vanity, laundry, shower and kitchen <http://www.hydrosave.com.au/>
- 3 **Turn your taps off lightly not tightly** - this helps prevent leaking.
- 4 **Replace washers as soon as a leak appears.** Washers vary in how long they last usually the copper ones last nearly 5 times longer than plastic.
- 5 **When cleaning your fish tank,** use the 'old' nitrogen and phosphorous-rich water on your plants.

