



Water saving tips for your home



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 to 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.



Pool

- A cover is the number one water saving device.
- It can reduce water loss to evaporation by as much as 90 per cent. This could 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.



Outdoors

- 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 it on your garden/pot plants.
- Install a rainwater tank to use in the garden as an alternative to the water supply.



Bathroom

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



Garden

- You may water your garden on any day except Monday. Afternoon is recommended to reduce the loss of water through evaporation.
- Select drought-tolerant plants to reduce water needs.
- Use a good mulch – mulching can prevent up to 70 per cent of 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 the soil to enhance water retention by up to 35 per cent.
- Install flow-controlled aerators on taps. You could save more than six litres per minute.



Laundry

- If you buy a new washing machine, choose a water-efficient model with a minimum '4 Star' rating. This will save up to 50 litres a wash.



Look out for the WELS 'star rating' label when you buy your new appliance and check waterrating.gov.au for a list of water-efficient products that can save money and help the environment.

A watersaver note for tenants and landlords

It's up to everyone to be water efficient, including tenants. New laws allow landlords to pass on full water consumption costs to tenants, provided minimum criteria have been met. For more information on these criteria and changes to water billing, visit rta.qld.gov.au or phone **1300 366 311**.

Checking for leaks on your property

1. Turn off all taps in and around your property.
2. Take a reading of the water meter. Check to see if the dials on the meter are moving. If they are there could be a leak.
3. Do not use any water, including the toilet, for at least 30 minutes and then take another reading.
4. If the reading has changed or the dial is moving, you could have a concealed leak. Contact a licensed plumber to locate and repair.

For further information please contact:

City of Gold Coast

P 1300 000 928

W cityofgoldcoast.com.au/water