



AN INTRODUCTION TO SAVING WATER

There are many ways we can save water in and around the house and garden. Simple things like taking shorter showers, using waterwise appliances and making your garden waterwise don't take a lot of effort. Supporting the waterwise campaign to 'save 6' buckets of water a day is easy to achieve for most households.



JOSH SAYS:

Switching from sprinklers to a drip irrigation system can reduce water use in your garden by up to 60% - this is a significant saving given that about half of all household water use occurs outside the home.



TANYA'S TIP:

The shower is not the place to brush teeth or shave legs or whiskers. Shave with a basin of warm water, brush teeth at the basin and keep the showers short.

BIG SAVINGS

Take shorter showers and install a water efficient shower head

Showers account for one third of all water used inside the home, so an easy way to save is to keep your showers short. An eight minute shower in a conventional (12 litres per minute) shower uses approximately 35,000 litres of water each year. A four minute shower would use approximately 17,500 litres a year less.

If you installed a water efficient 3 'Star' (nine litres per minute) shower head and had a four minute shower, you would save approximately 20,000 litres a year.



...SAVE AROUND 20,000 litres a year, per person.





Install a dual flush toilet system

The toilet uses about a quarter of the water inside the home. By installing a dual flush system a household could use 75% less water than a standard single flush toilet.

Single flush toilet = approximately 44,000 litres a year

Dual flush toilet = approximately 11,000 litres a year



...SAVE AROUND
30,000 litres a year

Buy a 4.5 'Star' washing machine

Washing machines use around a quarter of water in the home. When buying a new washing machine choose one with a WELS rating of four stars or more. Go to www.waterrating.gov.au for more information.

Conventional washing machines
= approximately 60,000 litres a year

Water efficient washing machines
= approximately 25,000 litres a year



...SAVE AROUND
35,000 litres a year

Brushing your teeth

Instead of running the tap when you brush your teeth simply wet your toothbrush before you begin and use a glass of water to rinse. Running water while brushing for two minutes each day = approximately 14,000 litres a year

Using a cup (250ml) of water while brushing your teeth
= approximately 180 litres a year



...SAVE AROUND 14,000
litres a year

Fix a leaking toilet or tap

A leaking toilet or tap wastes around 9,000 litres of water per year. To check your cistern, place a few drops of food colouring in the tank. Without flushing it, look for colouring in the toilet bowl. If it's getting through, you've got a leak, and it's time to call a plumber.



...SAVE AROUND 9,000
litres a year



Run your dishwasher full

Operate your dishwasher only when it's full. Older dishwashers can use up to 40 litres. New water efficient models use less energy and only around 15 litres of water.

Older model dishwasher 40 litres per wash per day = approximately 14,000 litres a year

4 'Star' rated dishwasher 15 litres per wash per day = approximately 5,000 litres a year



...SAVE AROUND 9,000 litres a year

MORE EASY WAYS TO SAVE WATER

Plant a waterwise garden

The garden and lawn account for around half the water used by households. Choosing waterwise plants for Perth, sticking to water roster days, mulching and installing drip irrigation are just some ways to save water and have a great looking garden. To find out more go to www.watercorporation.com.au and click on 'Being Waterwise'. Find out about Grey Water recycling at http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/mediaFiles/Is_Greywater.pdf.

Pool Covers

With more than your entire pool's volume of water being lost every year through evaporation, you can save water and money by regularly using a pool cover.

Washing your car on the lawn

When it's time to wash your car, use a bucket, as a running hose wastes up to 20 litres of water a minute.



Use a broom - not a pressure washer

When we need to clean down driveways or paved areas use a broom. Using a hose or a pressure washer is a fast way to waste water and attracts a fine if caught.



Trigger hoses save

Switch from a running hose to a trigger spray and target your water use.

Install a rainwater tank

Each year, around 40,000 litres of water could be collected from your home's roof area and used for flushing the toilet, doing laundry and watering the garden, thereby taking pressure off our drinking water supplies. A federal government rebate of up to \$500 is available, for more information go to www.environment.gov.au/water.

YOUR WATERWISE CHECKLIST

WATER SAVING ACTIONS	ALREADY DOING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEW ACTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS		
INSTALL A WATERWISE SHOWERHEAD		
NO RUNNING TAPS FOR RINSING (DISHES OR BRUSHING TEETH)		
FIX LEAKS		
FULL DISHWASHER LOAD		
WATERWISE WASHING MACHINE		
WATERWISE TOILET		
CATCH COLD WATER		
PLANT A WATERWISE GARDEN		
USE A POOL COVER		
DON'T WASH DRIVEWAY OR PATHS		
WATERWISE RETIC/TRIGGER HOSE		
INSTALL A RAINWATER TANK		

During 2010/11, Living Smart will be offered to around 10,000 households in Perth's eastern region as part of the Perth Solar City program. For more information on this Australian Government initiative, please call 1300 993 268 or visit perthsolarcity.com.au. The Living Smart Ambassadors are Tanya Ha (expert in environmental living and the author of *Greenology* and *Green Stuff for Kids*) and Josh Byrne (sustainability specialist, presenter on ABC TV's *Gardening Australia* program and author of *The Green Gardener*). The information in this brochure is provided in good faith. However the accuracy or appropriateness of the information is not guaranteed. The Living Smart brand has been developed by The Meeting Place Community Centre, the City of Fremantle, Murdoch University and Southern Metropolitan Regional Council to support a suite of programs developing capacity in community sustainability.

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