

WATER IS A PRECIOUS RESOURCE - DON'T WASTE IT

Here are some handy hints to conserve water and minimise wastage

- ❖ A leaking toilet can double the quantity of water it uses. Check for leaks from the cistern by adding food colouring to the water in the cistern and watching for colour coming through into the bowl.
- ❖ Install a low volume dual flush toilet.
- ❖ Repair dripping taps by replacing washers. A continuously dripping tap can mean up to 600 litres of water per day is wasted down the drain.
- ❖ A half filled bath uses less water than a long shower – take a bath – have a long soak.
- ❖ Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.
- ❖ Have a full load before you do the washing. If your machine has a suds return, using it will reduce the amount of water used.
- ❖ When using a dish washer – always wash a full load.
- ❖ Wash your car on the lawn using a bucket and sponge. Hose only for a quick final rinse. It is illegal to discharge soapy carwash water to the gutter.
- ❖ Let your lawn grow naturally without watering it.
- ❖ Cut the grass at least 2.5cm high. This will allow the root system to develop and find water deeper in the soil.
- ❖ Take off the grass catcher – leave clippings on the lawn as they make good mulch and help soil retain moisture longer.
- ❖ Mow weekly during the growing season and monthly during autumn and winter.
- ❖ Mulch garden beds to conserve moisture and choose water efficient plants. Try growing Australian native plants instead of thirsty exotic species. Mulching can reduce by half the water you use on your garden. You can make mulch yourself by composting vegetable scraps, leaves and lawn clippings.
- ❖ Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. The application of fertilizers increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers which contain slow-release water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.
- ❖ Use a timer with sprinklers or micro irrigation to deliver water efficiently.
- ❖ Don't water concrete or walls – they won't grow.
- ❖ Store drinking water in the fridge rather than letting the tap run every time you want a cool glass of water.
- ❖ Occasionally check your water meter after your household has gone to bed and again before they get up. If the meter shows that water has been used – then there is probably a leak in your household pipes. If you notice any leaks from your water meter – call Council's Engineering Department 6850 1333.

Conserve water – it's the right thing to do

Water is a valuable resource – don't waste it