

How waterwise are you?

You are unique, and so is the way you use your water. Water use can differ depending on where you live, what you do and how water efficient your water appliances are.

You can make a difference – be waterwise!

What does 150 litres a day look like?



Laundry
(1 load every 2 days)
52 litres



Shower
36 litres



Teeth & hand washing
23 litres



Toilet
18 litres



Dishwasher
(1 load every 2 days)
8 litres



House cleaning
5 litres



Cooking & food prep
4 litres



Drinking
2 litres



Pets
2 litres

4 steps to creating a waterwise home



Use water efficient appliances

- ◆ Use appliances with a WELS rating of 3 stars or more, and a rating of 4 stars or more for toilets.
- ◆ 5 star WELS rating shower heads use a third less water than 3 star shower heads.
- ◆ A 4 star WELS rating washing machine will save over 3 buckets of water per load compared to a 3 star washing machine.

Tip: Full load is the way to go, saving you energy, water and time!



Plan then plant a waterwise garden

- ◆ Grow drought tolerant plants.
- ◆ Group plants together according to water needs.

Tip: Search 'waterwise gardening' at www.qld.gov.au for more tips on water efficient gardening.



Look for leaks regularly

- ◆ Toilets can run, but they can't hide! A continuously leaking toilet can waste over 20 buckets of water a day.
- ◆ Put a stop to the drop – a leaking tap can drip away almost 2 buckets of water a day!
- ◆ Check for pool leaks regularly as a small leak can lose a lot of water.

Tip: To help identify if you have any leaks do a water audit (search 'waterwise home' at www.qld.gov.au).



Make every drop count

- ◆ When waiting for water to heat or cool, collect it and put it in a bottle to drink later or use it on your garden.
- ◆ Wash your veggies in a plugged sink or basin.

Tip: Use the rinse cycle on your dishwasher as it uses less water than rinsing by hand.

How you can save water

Water use based on devices generally with 3 star WELS rating (4 stars for toilet).

You could save 200 L in a day by using these water saving tips!



Bathroom

- ◆ Turning off the tap while soaping up your hands can save over 3 buckets of water a day.
- ◆ Showering for one minute less will save a bucket of water.
- ◆ Take a shower instead of a bath to save over 9 buckets of water, as well as money on your energy bill.
- ◆ While waiting for the water to heat, collect it and use it on your garden.



Laundry and toilet

- ◆ Run a washing machine only with a full load and save 11 buckets of water with one less load.
- ◆ Use the 1/2 flush to save 1.5 L per flush which is nearly a bucket of water a day.



Outdoor

- ◆ Use a broom or rake rather than a hose to clean your driveways and hard surfaces.
- ◆ Wash your car or bike on the lawn and water the grass at the same time.



Pools

- ◆ Use a pool cover, or a shade cloth over the pool, to reduce evaporation.
- ◆ Install a rainwater tank or downpipe diverter to top-up your pool instead of using town water.



Gardening and lawn

- ◆ Use mulch to retain water and prevent plants from drying out.
- ◆ Ideally water 5-10 am.
- ◆ Use other sources of water such as a rainwater tank or your laundry greywater.
- ◆ Mow only when necessary and outside the heat of the day.



Kitchen

- ◆ Scrape dishes, don't rinse, and save over one bucket of water a day.
- ◆ Run only a full dishwasher and save nearly 2 buckets of water for one less load.
- ◆ Wash your vegetables and rinse dishes in a plugged sink or basin – not under a running tap.
- ◆ While waiting for water to heat, collect it in a bottle and put it in the fridge.

waterwise
Queensland

More information

For tips on being waterwise, visit www.qld.gov.au and search for 'waterwise'.

For information on Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) star ratings visit www.waterrating.gov.au.



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