

WATER CONSERVATION

The bathroom and toilet, between them, account for half of the water used by most households. The toilet alone flushes 25 percent of household water down the drain, with the average single-flush toilet using 11 litres per flush. A house with three occupants flushes 165 litres a day down the toilet - that's over 60,000 litres a year, or two thirds of an Olympic sized swimming pool.



IN THE BATHROOM

TOILET

- Don't use the toilet as a rubbish bin.
- Install a modern dual-flush adaptor.
- Install a flush saver device.
- Place a plastic bottle in the cistern to reduce flush water.
- Check for slow leaks.

BATHROOM SINK

- Install tap aerators
- Turn off the water when brushing teeth or shaving.
- Fill the sink to wash your hands or face.
- Don't rely on water pressure to remove dirt, use a nail brush and pumice

SHOWER

- Take shorter showers or only partly fill the bath.
- Install a low flow showerhead.
- Don't turn on the shower until you are ready to get in.
- Shave before you get into the shower.
- Use a kitchen timer to help you spend less time in the shower.
- Make sure your hot water system thermostat is not set too high.

OUTDOORS

THE GARDEN

- Choose trees and plants that need less water.
- Avoid watering the garden during the heat of the day.
- Consider using a drip system to water the garden.
- Soak your garden to help plants stay green.
- Several short waterings are better than one long one.
- Place sprinklers carefully.
- Accept a dry lawn over the summer.
- Want green lawns? Choose drought-resistant grass.
- Let your grass grow slightly taller in the summer.
- Use mulch to minimise evaporation.

GENERAL

- Wash the car on the lawn using a bucket.
- Use a broom to clean driveways and paths.
- Buy a trigger gun hose attachment.
- Cover your swimming pool.

RAINWATER COLLECTION

For many centuries, people collected rainwater for drinking, washing, gardens and farms, with no help from treatment plants and distribution systems. Today, as water shortages loom, people are again turning to private rainwater collection.

