

In the Bathroom and Laundry

- install a low flow shower head.
- do not leave the tap running when cleaning your teeth and shaving.
- install a dual flush toilet and use the half flush option when appropriate.
- do not fill the bath to the top.
- set the load adjuster on your washing machine when you do not have a full load to wash.
- when replacing the washing machine consider purchasing a front load machine which uses less water than a top loading machine.

In the Garden and Backyard

- install tap timers and drip irrigation equipment to prevent the over watering of plants.
- water gardens in the early morning or late evening to prevent the evaporation of water from garden beds.
- water the roots rather than the leaves of plants.
- use mulch on your garden to prevent evaporation of water from the garden. This will also prevent the growth of weeds which would otherwise compete with plants for water resources.
- plant native vegetation species as they require less watering than exotics as they are more suited to our climate and environment
- wash your car/ boat/ caravan on the grass and with a bucket rather than with a hose.
- to reduce the evaporation of water from pools use a pool cover
- install a water tank to allow for the collection of rainwater for use on your garden.
- sweep rather than hosing pathways clean.

REFIT

To reduce water use further consider installing a REFIT kit available from Hunter Water. The kit is available for \$39.00 fully installed and includes a AAA rated shower head, water saving garden nozzle for the hose, compact fluorescent light globes and a home and energy audit. The full value of the kit is \$120.00.

For further information contact Council or Hunter Water.



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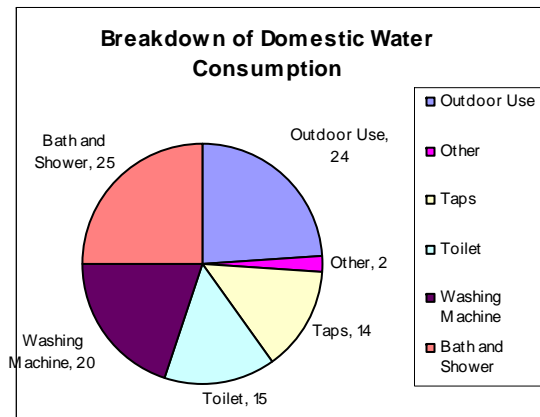
*Saving Water
In and
Around Your
Home*

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Why Save Water

Currently the average Hunter household uses 210,000 litres of water per year. This equates to each person in the Hunter using around 205 litres of water per day.



Source: Hunter Water

How Much Water do I Use

Toilet	11 litres single flush 11/6 litres dual flush
Bath	50 to 120 litres (half full)
Shower	70 to 160 litres per 8 minutes
Dishwashing by hand	12 to 15 litres per wash
Washing Machine	
• front loader	23 litres per kg of dry weight
• Top loader	31 litres per kg of dry weight
Hand basin	5 litres
Tap running while cleaning teeth	5 litres
Watering the garden with a hose	600 to 900 litres per hour
Using a garden sprinkler	Up to 1,500 litres per hour
Washing the car with a hose	100 to 300 litres
Dripping tap	200 litres per day
Leaking pipe	300 litres per day from a 1.5mm hole

Source: Hunter Water

Saving Water in Your Home

General Hints

- repair leaking taps as soon as they are identified.
- install flow restrictors to taps to reduce the flow rate of water.
- insulate hot water taps so that they deliver hot water to you quickly.

In the Kitchen

- use a plugged sink to wash fruit and vegetables rather than a running tap.
- only use the dishwasher when there is a full load to be washed. Alternatively set the load setting appropriately to wash half loads.
- when washing the dishes by hand do not rinse them under a running tap. Instead plug the sink for rinsing.
- place a jug of water in the fridge to reduce the amount of water wasted as you wait for the tap water to go cold each time you want a cool drink
- cook vegetables in the microwave rather than over the stovetop in a pot of water as microwaving only needs a small amount of water.