

# Saving water in and around your home



## Why save water?

Hunter Water estimates that each person in the Hunter uses around 200 litres of water per day.



- 29% Showers \*WELS 4 star rated showers save around 13,600 liters/year
- 22% Other Bath, car, pool, dishwasher
- 20% Garden

- 15% Washing Machine
- 10% Toilet
  WELS 4 star rated toilets save
  around 3,300 litres/year
- 4% Basins & Sinks
  WELS 4 star rated taps save
  around 1900litres/year

For a more sustainable water future, our target is to reduce usage to 155L per person per day.

How many litres could you save with changes to your daily habits?

Source 2025 www.hunterwater.com.au/water-and-environment/water-conservation/water-in-the-lower-hunter/how-much-water-do-we-need

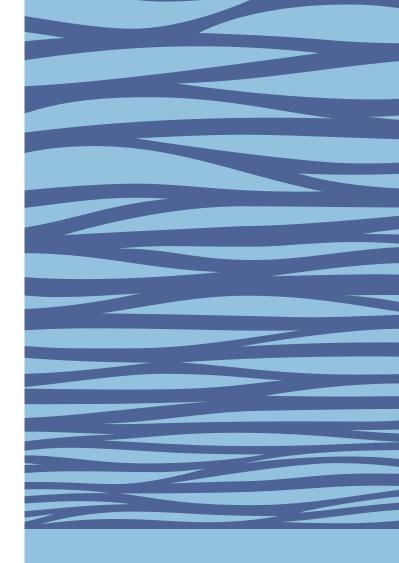




To find out how your families water usage compares to other households in the

Hunter, scan the QR code below to link to the Hunter Water usage calculator.

The calculator will provide a summary of your households water usage and provide tips on reducing your household water use.





## How much water do I use?

| Toilet                                 | 11 litres per single flush                                |
|--|---|
|  | 4.5/3 litres per dual flush                               |
| Bath                                   | An average bath uses 110 litres                           |
| Shower                                 | Older shower heads use 10 litres per minute               |
|  | Water efficient shower heads use 6 to 7 litres per minute |
| Dishwashing by hand                    | 15 litres per wash  |
| Washing<br>machine                     | A front loader uses 65 litres per load                    |
| macnine                                | A top loader uses 110 litres per load                     |
| Hand basin                             | 4 litres per minute                                       |
| Tap running<br>while cleaning<br>teeth | 4 litres per minute                                       |
| Watering the garden with a hose        | 15 litres per minute                                      |
| Using a garden<br>sprinkler            | 999 litres per hour                                       |
| Washing the car<br>with a hose         | 99 to 189 litres per day                                  |
| Dripping tap                           | 27 to 198 litres per day                                  |
| Leaking pipe                           | 99 litres per day from a<br>1.5mm hole                    |
| Average<br>Dishwasher                  | 12 litres per load  |

Source: Sydney Water

## Saving water in your home

#### In the kitchen

- When choosing appliances, look for a higher WELS rating.
- Use a plugged sink to wash fruit and vegetables rather than a running tap.
- Make sure the dishwasher is full each time it is used, or choose an appropriate half-load setting.
- Keep a container by the sink to catch water as it reaches your desired temperature. Use this water on the garden.
- 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.

### In the bathroom and laundry

- ✓ Install a low flow shower head and take shorter showers. Hunter Water recommends a four minute shower. Check out their four minute Spotify play lists to help stick to time.
- Do not leave the tap running when cleaning your teeth or shaving.
- Install a dual flush toilet and use the half flush option when appropriate.
- Only fill the bath with as much as you need.
- Set the load adjuster on your washing machine when you do not have a full load to wash.
- When replacing the washing machine consider the WELS rating, and 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 reduce the evaporation of water from garden beds.
- Water the root zone rather than the leaves of plants.
- Use mulch on your garden to prevent evaporation of water from the soil. This will also prevent the growth of weeds which would otherwise compete with plants for water resources.
- When choosing plants, look for "low-water" or "drought-tolerant" species, especially natives, suited to the local climate.
- Improving the health of your soil with compost will help it to retain moisture.
- 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.



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.

