



## Question

*Why should we reduce our water use?*

## Water Wise

### Why save water?

- \* So we have enough for everyone now and in the future
- \* Reduces your water bill
- \* Reduces the energy used in pumping water to your house (reducing greenhouse gas emissions)



### What to do

How far below 155 litres per person per day is your household? Here are some ideas to help use even less at home and at school!



An old **single flush toilet** can use around 11 litres of precious drinking water per flush. You can purchase cistern weights from your local hardware or plumbing supplier, or make your own by filling a large drink bottle with water and placing it in

the cistern. Save **3 litres of water per flush, around 12 litres per person per day**



By doing **one less load of washing** per week in an old machine, a family of 4 could save **5 litres per person per day** (140 litres per load)



If you have a **4 minute shower** each day, you could save around **20 litres per person per day** by exchanging your showerhead for free



**Install a rainwater tank:** a 3,500 litre rainwater tank in Melbourne can save around 20,000 litres of water each year, **55 litres each day, or 14 litres per person per day** in a home of 4 people - enough to meet most of a household's needs for

watering a garden and some home uses - such as flushing toilets



**Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.** Save 4,000 litres of water a year, **11 litres per person per day** (if you brush for

3 minutes). Instead, use a glass of water to rinse your mouth



## Question

*Why should we reduce our water use?*

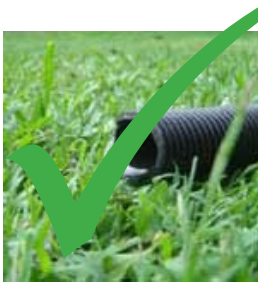
## Water Do's and Don'ts



Don't wash your dishes under running water



Do make sure the dishwasher is full before turning it on



Do divert your washing machine water to your garden



Do wash with a full load of clothes



Don't leave a leaky tap - you can save around 50 litres a day by fixing it!

## Water Saver Challenges

- 1 Check your toilet for leaks.** Simply put a few drops of food dye in the cistern, wait 15 minutes and then check the water in the bowl. If the food dye colour appears in the bowl you have a leak.
- 2 Check the water efficiency of your showerhead.** To do this, hold a bucket underneath and turn the tap on full. Let the water run for a period of time, say 15 seconds (check with a watch or stopwatch) and work out how many litres of water it is using per minute. A water efficient showerhead uses less than 9 litres per minute. If your showerhead is using more than this, it would be worthwhile to exchange it for a new free one from your water retailer.