



Marion Scrymgour

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND THE ARTS

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CONSERVE OUR WATER FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Environment Minister Marion Scrymgour has used National Water Week to urge Central Australians to take advantage of the NT Government's \$50 rebate for water saving devices.

The NT Government is providing Alice Springs and Tennant Creek residents with rebates of up to \$50 for selected water saving devices purchased at participating outlets.

Ms Scrymgour said the scheme fulfilled an election commitment that addressed demand for water in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek. Since the scheme was launched in September, 100 Centralians have taken advantage of the offer.

"The availability of the Waterwise Rebate Scheme is timely as Alice Springs people use more water than residents in other Australian cities - with much water used on residential gardens," Ms Scrymgour said.

"In some states they have water restrictions to conserve their precious water resources.

"The Territory Government conducted a survey that showed people would purchase water saving devices if they were more informed about the potential cost savings.

"Prior to the last election, the Chief Minister announced the Northern Territory Government would provide rebates of up to \$50 for water saving devices purchased by residents in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek and this commitment is now in effect.

"Together with Power and Water Corporation we are promoting water conservation more generally in the community."

Ms Scrymgour said Desert Knowledge Australia and the Arid Lands Environment Centre, through the COOLmob project are also raising awareness of water conservation issues in Central Australia.

“What we are saying is we can all help save water by focusing on making small changes in our homes and gardens,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“The Waterwise Rebate Scheme makes it easy for people to save water in their homes and on their gardens and householders can now save water and save money at the same time.

“In this, the international year of deserts and desertification, we need to do all we can to conserve it for future generations to enjoy”.

The Waterwise Rebate Scheme will subsidise AAA-rated or ☆☆☆+ shower heads, as a prelude to the National Water Commission’s Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS), which is soon to be mandatory in all states and territories.

The Waterwise Rebate Scheme will also encourage more efficient garden use by subsidising the purchase of trigger nozzles and tap timers. Low-flow regulators are also covered by the Scheme.

“The Government is looking at including more water saving devices in the future and value-adding to the Scheme by working with DKA COOLmob home water audits,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“DKA COOLmob are in receipt of an \$8000 EnviromENT grant that will allow them to conduct household water audits at a subsidised rate of only \$10 per household that has the potential to save householders up to \$500 a year off their water bill depending on the household so what is good for the wallet will be good for the environment.”

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