



Water Efficient Products

Being among the highest water users in the country Darwin residents have many opportunities to save water around the home. One of the cheapest ways to save water is by increasing water use efficiency. This means you can carry out the same activities using less water. This will both extend the life of our precious water (Darwin River Dam) and groundwater resources and allow you to make savings on bills.

Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme

You can easily identify and purchase water efficient products including washing machines, dishwashers, toilets, taps and showers, through the Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme.

Products included in the Scheme must be labelled with a star rating (the more stars the more water efficient) and water consumption or flow figures. Visit www.waterrating.gov.au



Smart Approved WaterMark (SAWM)

Smart Approved WaterMark (SAWM) is a voluntary scheme for products and services which cannot be rated under the WELS program.

Approved products so far include low flow car washes, cleaning devices, gardening products, greywater systems, household plumbing products, pools and spas, rainwater harvesting systems, irrigation systems and even synthetic grass. Visit www.smartwatermark.org



Improved technology

Many new and improved water saving products have appeared in the past few years meaning there is a water wise product available for practically all activities that involve water in the home. Some new and innovative products include systems that generate water from air, hot water systems that redirect cold water to another use or provide instantaneous hot water, and synthetic grass for the home.

Visit www.savewater.com.au for more information.

How much water can you expect to save?

By installing water efficient appliances like 3-star showerheads, dual flush toilets and rainwater tanks will help you to save water. The following table indicates approximate water and cost savings generated by the use of various water efficient products in a household of three people. Note that saving hot water also saves energy; however cost savings from this are not included in the table.

Further Information:

Water Resources Division

Department of Natural Resources,

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Water efficient product	Action (based on 3 person household)	Cost	Savings (kL/year)	Savings (\$/year)*
Showerhead	Replace old showerhead with water efficient 3-star rated model	\$20 - \$150	60 (5min shower)	\$43
4 minute shower timer	Fit a timer to your shower and reduce shower times from 7 to 4 minutes	Free - \$15	30	\$22
Home plumbing	Install a device that recirculates hot water through internal pipes allowing hot water to be instantly available	Variable	17	\$12
Tap timer	Fit a tap timer to your irrigation system to save water	\$20+	10	\$7
Tap flow controller/aerator	Fit flow controller/aerator to kitchen and bathroom taps to reduce flow	\$10	15	\$10
Toilet	Replace a single flush (12L) toilet with a 4-star rated 4.5/3 L dual flush model	\$150+	28	\$20
Trigger nozzle	Fit a trigger nozzle to your hose for garden watering and car washing	\$20	5	\$4
Washing machine	Replace an old inefficient machine with a 4-star rated or higher washing machine	\$900+	21	\$15
Dishwasher	Replace old dishwasher with 4-star rated (or higher) water efficient model	\$1,500+	10	\$7
Pool cover	Fit and use a swimming pool cover to reduce evaporation when not in use	\$400+	60	\$43
Rainwater tank	Fit a 9kL rainwater tank and pump connected to a toilet or hot water system	\$3,000+	60	\$43
Greywater system	Install a greywater system to reuse water from the laundry and bathroom for use in the garden	\$700 - \$4000	250	\$180
Synthetic grass	Lay synthetic grass that requires no water, fertiliser and always looks green	From \$55m ²	200	\$144