

How can you save water?

- ✚ Reduce your power usage. Coal-fired power stations use large quantities of water (20million litres a day for 1 black-coal power station) Nuclear power stations use even more.
- ✚ Mulch your garden and water in the late afternoon or evening to save water loss from evaporation.
- ✚ Plant native and drought tolerant plants.
- ✚ Fix dripping taps. A drip can waste over 20,000 litres of water per year.
- ✚ Install dual-flush toilets where possible to save around 18,000 litres a year.
- ✚ Put in AAA rated shower heads and use 7 to 9 litres of water per minute instead of 15 to 30 litres per minute. It also saves energy costs in heating the extra water.
- ✚ Have shorter showers.
- ✚ Use aerating taps in the kitchen and laundry. They cut water flow by 50% without reducing water pressure.
- ✚ Use environmentally friendly detergents and recycle your laundry and bathroom water on to your garden.
- ✚ Use a basin for rinsing vegetables and salads in the kitchen. Then recycle the water on to your pot plants. This can save up to 15 litres a day as well as providing water for your plants.
- ✚ Harvest rainwater from your roof into a tank.
- ✚ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth and soaping your hands. This can save around 16 litres a day.
- ✚ Install a pool cover to save around 100 litres a day.



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We probably have less than a decade to avoid catastrophic and irreversible climate change.

Jim Hansen, NASA's ace climate modeler
(Reported in *New Scientist*, Dec. 2006)

We can all make a difference with simple changes ...

- Reduce consumption!
- Reduce energy use!
- Reduce water use!

How can you reduce your general consumption?

Everything you buy has consumed energy in getting it to you. You can help cut down energy use through your shopping choices.

- ✚ Buy fresh, locally sourced food when possible.
- ✚ Buy fresh food that is in season.
- ✚ Use basic ingredients with minimal processing in your cooking
- ✚ Consider how far goods have travelled to get to you.
- ✚ Look for minimal packaging.
- ✚ Use a reusable shopping bag every time you go shopping.
- ✚ Look for recycled products.
- ✚ Choose fabrics that require less energy in manufacturing or growing the fibre (e.g. undyed fabrics; fabrics from hemp which is drought resistant and grows fast without pesticides and manufactured chemicals).
- ✚ Recycle things you no longer need by giving them away.
- ✚ Ask yourself, "Do I really need this?" when tempted to buy.

You can save around 1,000kg of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your household waste.

Check out the climate change page at www.wwf.org.au for more ideas on how to reduce your footprint on our planet.



How can you save energy?

- ✚ Change a light. Replacing six regular light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs will save 400kg of carbon dioxide a year.
- ✚ Drive less. Walk, bike, carpool or take public transport more often. You'll save 1.5kg of carbon dioxide for every 5km you don't drive!
- ✚ Check your tyres. Keeping your tyres inflated properly can improve your car's fuel efficiency. Every litre of petrol saved keeps 2.5kg of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere!
- ✚ Use less hot water. It takes a lot of energy to heat water - use less hot water by installing an energy efficient triple A rated showerhead (3 tonnes of carbon dioxide saved per year) and washing your clothes in cold or warm water (225kg saved per year).
- ✚ Move your thermostat down 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer. You could save about 900kg of carbon dioxide a year with this simple adjustment.
- ✚ Wrap an insulation blanket around your water heater (up to 455kg of carbon dioxide saved each year)
- ✚ Turn off electrical devices. Simply turning off your television, DVD player, microwave, stereo and computer when you're not using them will save thousands of kilograms of carbon dioxide a year.
- ✚ Use a clothes line rather than a dryer (save 260kg of carbon dioxide per quarter as well as money on your energy bill).
- ✚ Run your dishwasher and washing machine only when full. (save up to 135kg of carbon dioxide per year)
- ✚ Drive smoothly with the flow of traffic (save 140kg of carbon dioxide per quarter).
- ✚ Boil water for hot drinks during the day and fill a thermos flask instead of frequently boiling more water.
- ✚ If you don't have it, install insulation. It makes your house cooler in summer and warmer in winter and can save around \$300 in energy costs annually.
- ✚ Switch to green power as far as possible. In Australia, 250 million tonnes of carbon dioxide is pumped annually into the atmosphere by coal-fired electricity stations.