

love water  
use it wisely

Central  
Coast  
Council

# Outside your home



# love water use it wisely



20%  
-30%

## Outside your home

Our water is a precious resource and if we each use a little less every day, we can help secure our water supply for years to come.

Households are responsible for almost 80% of all water use on the Central Coast. About 30% of our drinking water is used for outside activities like watering your garden, washing your car or maintaining your pool.

The Central Coast has a daily water use target of **150 litres** per person. By aiming for this and using water wisely at home, you will save both water and money!

## Garden and lawns

Gardens help us feel good and encourage social interaction.

Here are some simple ways you can save water and still have a thriving garden:

- 💧 choose native and drought tolerant plants
- 💧 apply mulch, compost or wetting agents to the soil to reduce water loss by up to 70%
- 💧 use a rainwater tank or greywater as an alternate source of water
- 💧 try watering at dawn and use a trigger nozzle on hose
- 💧 avoid fixed hoses or sprinklers, as these devices waste large amounts of water.

30%

of water used  
at home is for  
outside activities

live to

150L





2%



4%

## Garage and driveways

It's easy to reduce water consumption and run off while still having a clean driveway, car or boat:

- 💧 instead of a hose, use a broom, brush or rake to sweep and clean paths
- 💧 wash vehicles on the lawn, using a bucket or hose with a trigger nozzle
- 💧 use a bucket to clean windows and outdoor furniture
- 💧 use greywater from your bath, shower or washing machine to wash vehicles and driveway.

## Pools and spas

Evaporation is a major reason for water loss from pools and spas. There are simple ways to reduce the amount of water used for pools and spas:

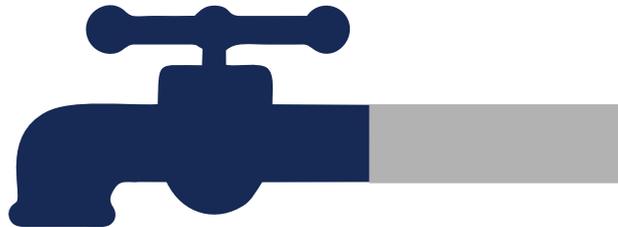
- 💧 use a pool cover to stop evaporation when your pool is not in use
- 💧 backwash your filter on the lawn and only when necessary
- 💧 build a sail or shade cloth over your pool
- 💧 if you have rainwater tank, use tank water to top up your pool.

## Leaking taps

3%

A leaking tap, toilet or water pipe can lose anything from a few litres to thousands of litres of water every day.

Here are some actions you can take to reduce the water wasted from taps and fixtures.



- 💧 Learn how to check your water meter reading.
- 💧 Fix dripping taps, usually by replacing the tap washer.
- 💧 Install new water efficient taps.
- 💧 Contact a license plumber if you can't find the source of the leak.

# Give Your Tank A Health Check!

Follow our maintenance schedule to keep your tank operating at peak efficiency.

Key:

Every  
1-3Mths

Every  
3-6Mths

Every  
2-3Yrs

Prune overhanging tree branches and foliage

Clean gutters, rain heads, tank inlets and screens

Check for leaks in gutters, pipes & the storage tank and repair any damage

Check for torn or loose mosquito screens & replace if necessary  
Put screens back carefully, ensuring they are tightly refitted

Check roof and gutters and remove accumulated debris, including leaf and other plant materials

Check and clean inlet & outlet screens

Make sure screens are tight fitting with no tears. Replace or repair if necessary

Clean and check the first flush device and all filters

Check tank for physical defects, evidence of animal/insect access & algae growth

Check and clean pump filters and strainers

Remove accumulated sediment (sludge). Clean out if necessary.

Water restrictions may apply. For more information visit [centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/lovewater](http://centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/lovewater)