

**love water**  
**use it wisely**

Central  
Coast  
Council

# Early Childhood Centres Water Conservation



# love water use it wisely



## At your centre

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.

There are over 100 Early Childhood Centres in the Central Coast using water for washing, gardens, drinking, cooking, cleaning, bathrooms and programing. Some of the highest usage occurs in the bathrooms and kitchens.

The Central Coast has a daily water use target of 150 litres per person. By aiming for this and using water wisely at your Centre, you will help to ensure water for the future!

## Bathroom/Kitchen

One running toilet can waste 50 litres of water every day!

Here's a few simple ways to save water:

- report running toilets, taps and showers to the maintenance team
- make sure taps are turned off completely after use
- use the half flush button on the toilet.
- Fill dishwasher completely full when used
- Use a large bowl of water to wash produce instead of running the tap

Studies indicate children in early education centres may use twice as much water as children in primary school per day.

live to  
**150L**



**WATER RATING**  
[www.waterrating.gov.au](http://www.waterrating.gov.au)

Tip: Always choose electrical appliances which have a high WELS star rating. These will save both energy and water!



## Classroom

Many centres have taps and sinks for activities, cleaning and hand washing. Here are some helpful tips to help reduce the water used in the classroom areas:

- fill a sink with water to wash all the items at once
- have one container of water to share for activities and cleaning
- never leave the tap running unnecessarily

## Leaking taps

A leaking bubbler or tap can waste litres of water every day.

Schools can reduce the water wasted from bubblers and taps by:

- checking bubblers and taps regularly
- fixing drips by replacing the tap washer



## Outdoor Play Areas

Here are some simple ways early childhood centres can save water and still have thriving outdoor areas and gardens.

- choose native and drought tolerant plants
- apply mulch, compost or wetting agents to the soil to reduce water
- use a rainwater tank or greywater for irrigation
- try watering in the cool of dawn or dusk and use a trigger nozzle on the hose, avoid fixed hoses or sprinklers, rotate watering sections over multiple days
- use water from wet play outside to water plants or gardens



- install water blades or aerators to taps
- encouraging students to fill-up water bottles instead of drinking directly of the bubbler

# Give Your Tank A Health Check!

love water  
use it wisely

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

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

Check and  
clean inlet &  
outlet screens

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

Clean  
gutters, rain  
heads, tank  
inlets and  
screens

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

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

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)