

# Pool

A backyard pool can increase water consumption by 10%

- A pool cover is the number one water saving device to stop evaporation
- If a pool cover is not suitable, build a shade cloth over your pool or create a windbreak to reduce evaporative water loss
- Check regularly around your pool, piping and equipment for cracks and leaks
- Install a rainwater tank to top-up your pool
- Backwash your pool only when necessary



Always observe current water restrictions. Check [www.SydneyWater.com.au](http://www.SydneyWater.com.au) for advice and other great water saving tips

# Leaks

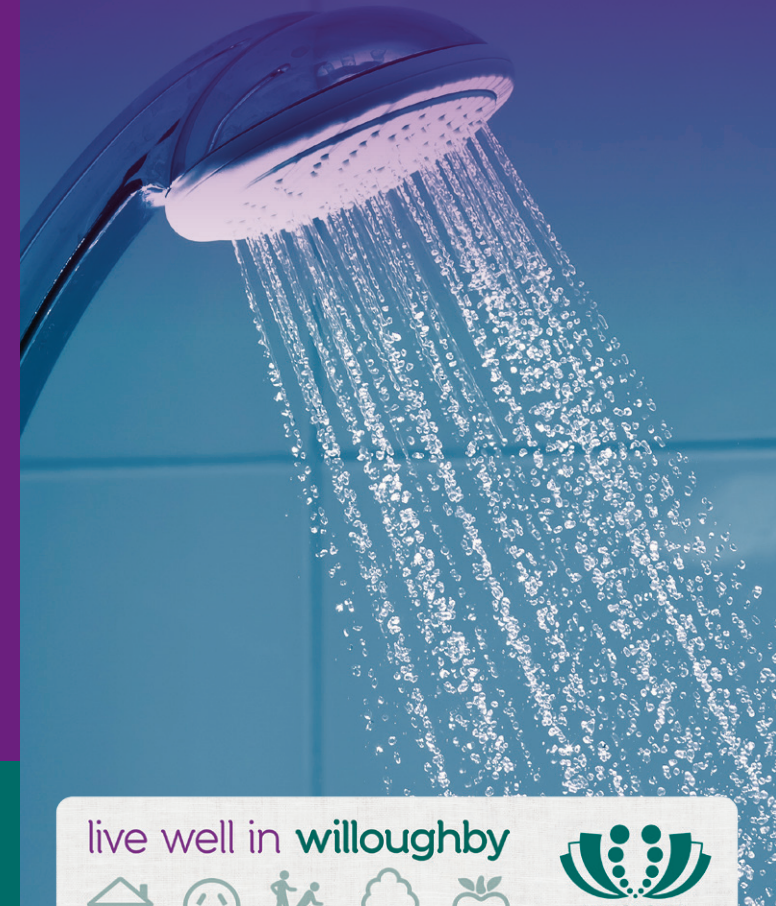
- Check regularly for leaks. Turn off all taps and water-using devices and check the water meter before and after. If the numbers have changed, you have a leak.
- Fix leaking taps with a new washer
- For leaking toilets or other major leaks, contact a licensed plumber
- In times of drought, Sydney Water offers a WaterFix program – free appointments with licensed plumbers to check for leaks, help with repair work and provide free or discounted water-saving appliances

For more information, visit [www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au) or contact Council's Environmental Education Team: [env.educators@willoughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:env.educators@willoughby.nsw.gov.au) or phone 9777 1000



home & lifestyle

# Water saving tips for your home and garden



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[www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au)

JULY 2020

# Kitchen

- Purchase water-efficient appliances – look for the star rating
- Only use the dishwasher when you have a full load and use a water-saving setting
- Don't rinse dishes under the tap, scrape excess food into your compost or bin instead
- Wash fruit and vegetables in a bowl of water, not under a running tap, and use the water afterwards in the garden
- Catch running water whilst waiting for it to warm up. Use it to water plants, rinse dishes or wash fruit and vegetables
- Insulate hot water pipes to save water and energy

Look out for the WELS star rating label when you buy your new appliances and check [waterrating.gov.au](http://waterrating.gov.au) for a list of water-efficient products that can save money and help the environment



# Bathroom and Laundry

- Have four minute showers, use a shower timer if needed
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving
- Install water-efficient showerheads, add aerators to your taps and a dual-flush toilet
- Use a bucket to collect shower water whilst waiting for it to get hot and use to water plants
- If you need to run a bath, only fill the bathtub with as much water as needed. Use less for children and pets
- Only wash clothes when needed and spot clean stains instead
- Always run your washing machine on a full load and/or adjust the water level to suit the size of the wash load
- Choose a water-efficient front loader over a top loader. Check the WELS star rating
- Use an eco-mode setting when possible

# Garden

- Install a rainwater tank and use it to water the garden, fill the pool, wash the car etc
- Use a broom to sweep paved areas instead of a hose
- Use a trigger hose, bucket or watering can when watering the garden or washing your car (and wash on the lawn)
- To reduce evaporation, use mulch around plants, water at dawn or dusk and avoid watering on windy days
- Consider installing self-watering wicking beds
- Select drought-tolerant plants to reduce water needs
- For plants to survive dry conditions, it is recommended that you use local, indigenous plants that are adapted to the conditions of the area where you live in terms of topography, micro-climate and soil conditions
- Refer to Council's webpage on Native Plants for a comprehensive list of local native flora or ask for advice from your local nursery

