

Mindful Water Habits

Start Now

A Rous County Council Initiative

ROUS
COUNTY COUNCIL



Mindful water habits start now.

Water plays an essential role in our day to day lives.

We rely on water for everyday things like hand washing, cleaning and drinking through to recovery efforts following extreme events like bushfires and floods. To many our water supply may seem abundant, but water is not a limitless resource. A changing climate along with population pressures means without conservation efforts, this vital supply of water may be exhausted.

The Northern Rivers is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia, with our population and tourism numbers increasing, demand for water is forecast to increase almost 40 percent by 2060. At the same time, the amount of water available from our existing water sources is forecast to decrease by over 20 percent due to changing climate conditions.

In the past we have experienced prolonged droughts and catastrophic floods, and although water seems plentiful during times of high rainfall, we will without doubt enter drier times and drought again. Whether it's wet or dry, setting ourselves up to practice water efficient habits and behaviours is important now. With simple changes to our everyday water use, a small reduction per person per day can make a huge difference to the future of our water supply.

The water that comes through our taps, services our homes, and supports our businesses is sourced from our local environment. In our region, we are currently almost entirely reliant on rainfall for our water.

Our water is treated, transported and supplied to us to enjoy for drinking, bathing, cooking, cleaning and gardening. We need to be mindful of how we use it, where we waste it and how we can conserve it.

Read our informative little e-book and help us spread the word!



From the source to your tap and beyond.

Where does your water come from?

Did you know... The primary source of our drinking water is Rocky Creek Dam, located northwest of Lismore. Situated high in the catchment, adjoining Nightcap National Park, water from Rocky Creek Dam is supplied to the local councils of Lismore (excluding Nimbin), Ballina (excluding Wardell), Byron (excluding Mullumbimby) and some areas of the Richmond Valley (lands east of Coraki).

Our water comes from the land of the Widjabul Wia-bal people, it is sourced from our catchments and areas of ancient rainforest.

Our water is not limitless. Please be mindful not to waste it.



Benefits of conserving water now.

Reduce energy and emissions.

Large amounts of energy are required to treat, transport and deliver clean drinking water to our homes. By reducing your water use you will also reduce your energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Reduce wastewater. Water leaving your home requires treating to make it clean again. By reducing your water use you also reduce wastewater leaving your home.

Save on your bills. Simple changes can save you money on your water and electricity bills.

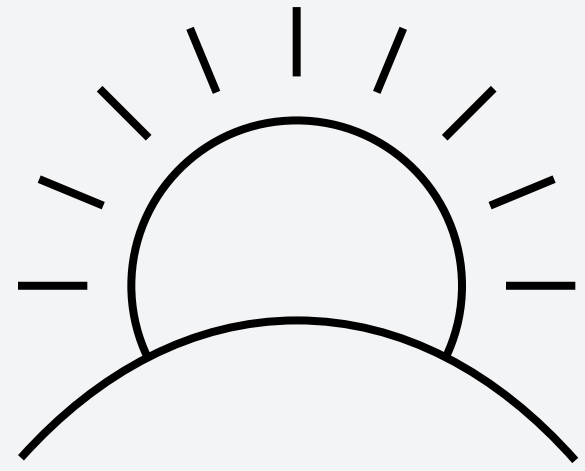
Reduce your footprint. Reducing demand on the region's water supply, will delay the need for new water supply infrastructure and the need for water restrictions.



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Mindful water habits you can do every day.

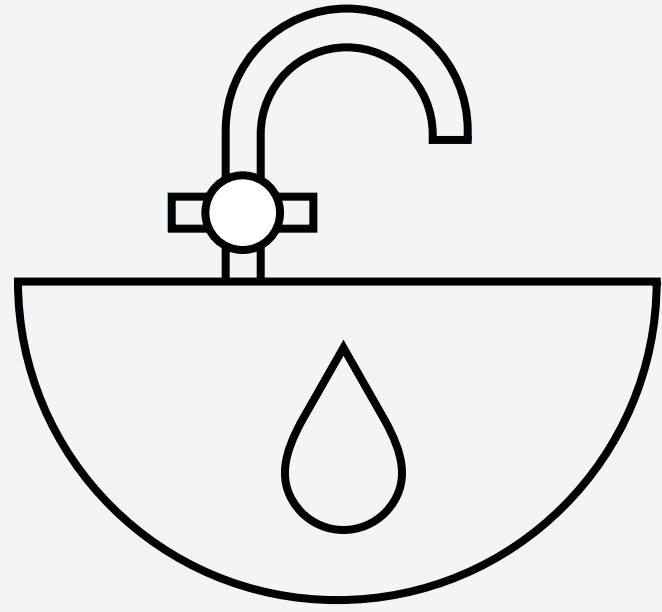




Dusk or Dawn

Water your garden
before 10am and
after 3pm

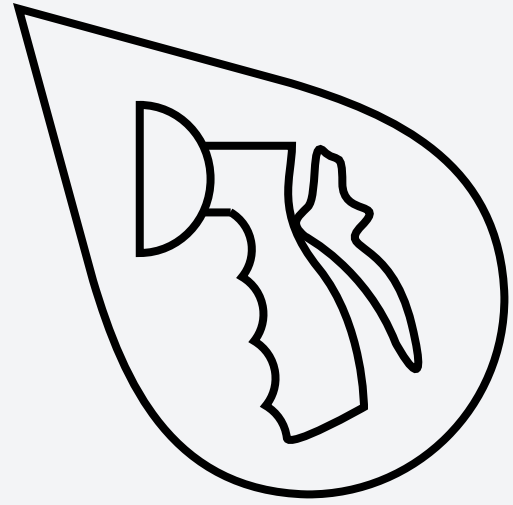




Taps off. Plug it

When brushing your teeth or rinsing dishes and food.

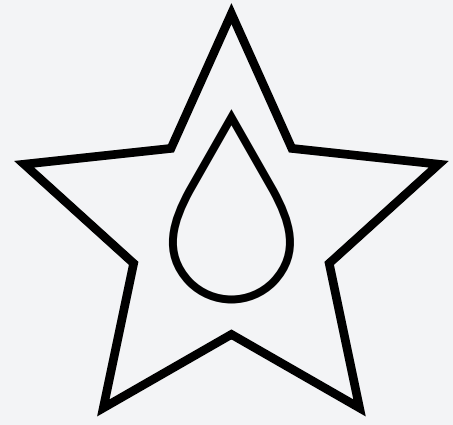




Trigger Up

Fit a trigger nozzle to all hand-held hoses

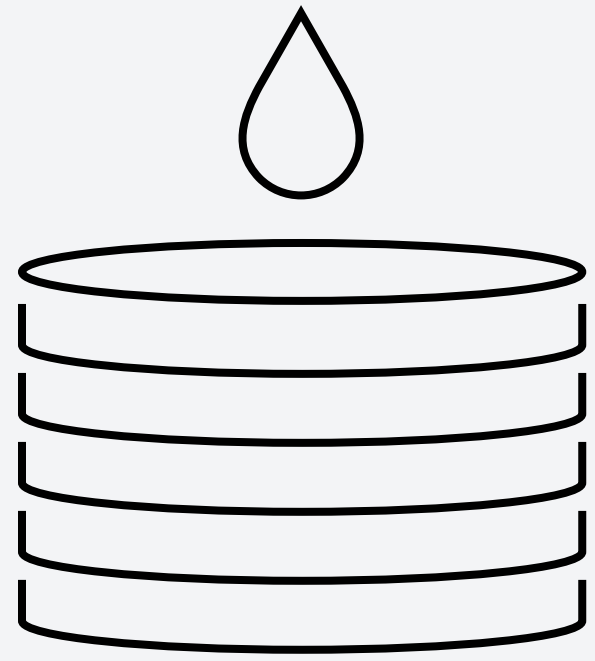




Line up the Stars

Choose water efficient appliances. More stars mean more savings.





Raining? Tank it

Install a rainwater tank. Seek advice from your plumber.

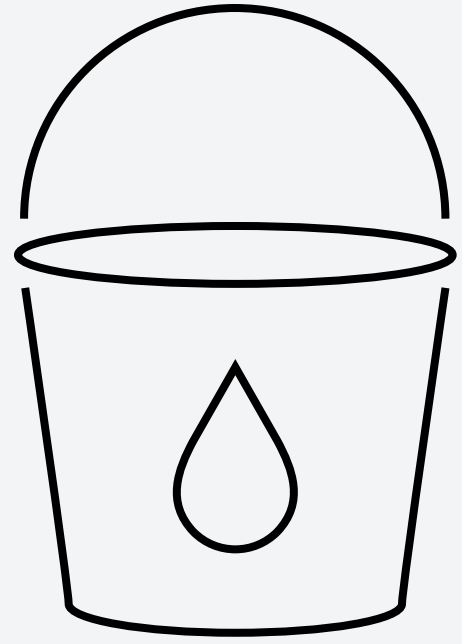




Fix the Drip

Fix dripping taps.
Check toilet leaks with
food dye in the cistern.

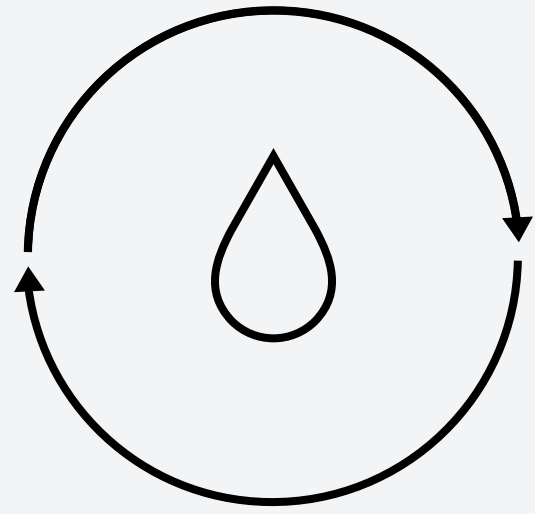




Wash Wisely

Wash vehicles
on the lawn.
Use a bucket.





Recycle, Re-use

Where available, connect to recycled water for garden, toilets and laundry use.

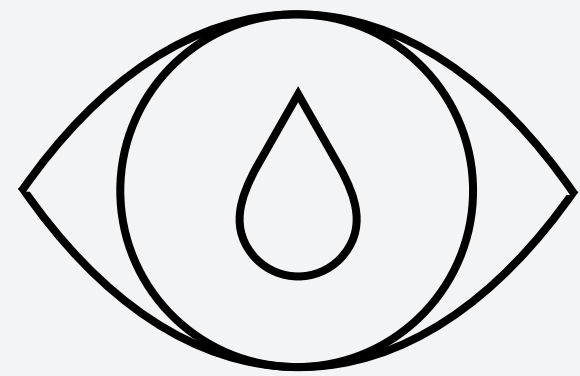




Shower Smart

Install a water saving shower head. Take shorter showers (1-4 minutes).





Look for Leaks

Check your water meter stops turning when all taps & water appliances are off.



Rous County Council work in partnership with Lismore City Council, Ballina Shire Council, Byron Shire Council and Richmond Valley Council to deliver various water efficiency programs to support our community.

Visit rous.nsw.gov.au for helpful water saving advice for your home or business.

For further information contact your local council or Rous County Council council@rous.nsw.gov.au.

Rous County Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we work and live. We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and emerging and acknowledge their continuing connection to Country who will guide us on our shared journey to the future.





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