

**THE MANY BENEFITS OF GETTING A  
RAINWATER TANK INSTALLED -**

How much money and water will you REALLY SAVE  
just by being water wise at home?

## *The Benefits of Getting a Rainwater Tank Installed*

Have you ever wondered just how much water you could be saving just by being water wise? Have you considered investing in a rainwater tank but just don't know where to start? **If so, then we represent a great opportunity for you to start saving water in a matter of a few short weeks – this means saving you that hard earned money too!** Rainwater tanks are becoming very popular in our dry continent of Australia; they are used:

• In communities without access to reticulated water sources or where good quality water supplies are limited;

• In areas where local regulations require that rainwater storage be provided for bushfire prevention purposes; and

• More recently are being introduced in all urban areas of NSW which have access to mains water to encourage the conservation of water.

Well, smart people invest in rainwater tanks to literally cut their water bills by almost half!

How do they do it?

Is it underhanded?

Absolutely NOT!

It's simple! Installing your own water tank means that you can have guilt free water on the house to use anytime you want it - LITERALLY! You control your water usage. When Australia experiences rain at its peak, a lot of it runs into the drains and is wasted; **its rainwater, NOT Drain water!** You could save up to 40,000L of water each year, just by installing a rainwater tank! So what are the benefits of installing a water tank?

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### **Save money:**

- As the cost of living seems to be increasing day by day, installing a rainwater tank will reduce your water bill enormously. Rainwater tanks can reduce the average household bill significantly, as it can be connected to your toilet and washing machine, and can replace all outside uses for water around the home; these three uses equate to **over 50%** of the average water bill. That's a saving of approximately **half the dollars** on your water bill!
- When getting a rainwater tank installed, you can get up to \$1500 rebate on your tank simply by installing to the toilet or washing machine. If this is not something you want to do, then you can get a rebate of up to \$500 just for purchasing a rainwater tank! But be sure to buy the maximum capacity before you lodge your rebate, because you can't claim for more than one rebate!
- Believe it or not, Rainwater tanks have now become an asset to all homes who install, and can easily become one for your home; a rainwater tank can easily add a few extra thousand to your home's value.

### **Council Regulations:**

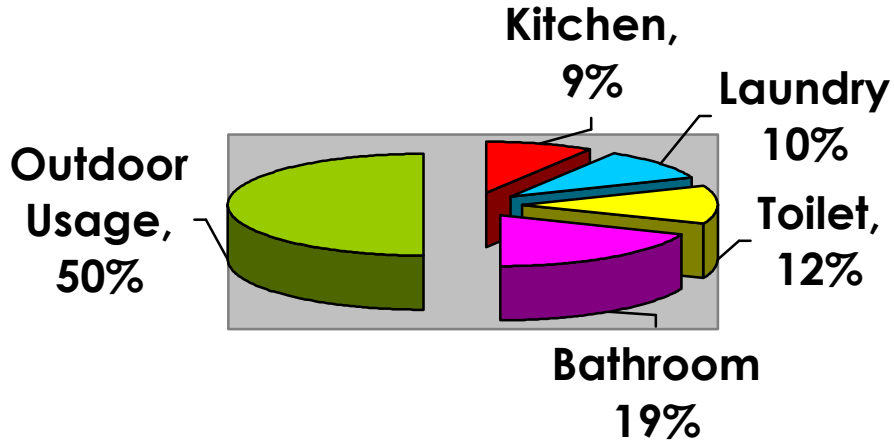
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- As residential developments are becoming more widespread it has been made mandatory by many council authorities to introduce the installation of rainwater tanks as mandatory, it is in an effort to stop relying heavily on mains water, but instead become more self efficient and environmentally sustainable.
- In the current times of drought, councils can enforce water restrictions at any time they feel it is necessary. To get around the restrictions placed upon you, rainwater tanks are the best solution to the water restrictions; it is literally guilt free water with no restrictions. You can use your rainwater tank all year round and always be ready for when the restrictions are enforced.

### **Environmental:**

- Unfortunately, climate change is an issue which Australians have to deal with today, by installing a rainwater tank, this means that we can have our own water sources which don't cost anything, and reduce our carbon footprints.
- On a larger scale, by installing a rainwater tank you really are doing your bit for the environment. By using our own sources of water we are able to protect the mains water supply which may reduce the development of desalination plants which will only service a minimal 15% of the population and instead pollute and destroy our environment.

## Average Water used in Household



The Australian Bureau of statistics shows that the majority of water usage within the average household is consumed outdoors, in gardens, topping up pools, washing cars or pets! The average Australian gardener uses an average on 1100L per week on their gardens alone. Rainwater tanks are the solution to all outdoor water saving needs. Rainwater contains excellent nutrients for your garden, there are no harsh chemicals which are used to purify our main water supply, just natural water; this is the best low cost treat that you can give your garden all year round totally guilt free!

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So, let's break it down, how much can you REALLY save, by being water wise in your home?

### **Choice magazine calculated:**

- The average daily water consumption for two hypothetical families of four -- one which is water-wise and one which doesn't try to limit water usage.
- The amount of money the water-wise family can save each year, based on a water price of \$1 per 1000 L (a fairly average price around the country).

We have assumed the families are inner-city neighbours, which means the majority of their water is used indoors -- for example, in the shower, toilet and the washing machine. Indoor water use is easier to compare than outdoor use, because typical behaviour and usage patterns (for example, how often you take a shower, or how often you run the washing machine or dishwasher) don't vary as much as outdoor usage. Outdoor usage can be between nil and more than 50% of your total water use depending, for example, on where you live, how big your grounds are or if you have a pool.

The **comparison between the two families** is broken down to particular types of water use in the home.

### **SHOWER:**

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*Let's go off the assumption that each family member takes one shower per day:*

**Family # 1:** Shower for 10 minutes each, using an older-style shower head that uses 18 L/minute. Their shower water consumption is 720 L/day.

**Family # 2:** Limit their showers to 5 minutes, using a water-efficient shower head with a flow rate of 8 L/minute. Their shower water consumption is 160 L/day.

**Saving: \$204 per year**

In addition to the savings on their water bill, Family # 2 is also saving energy, because they don't use as much hot water. So a water-efficient shower head pays for itself after only a few months.

### **TOILET:**

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*Let's assume that on average, each family member uses the toilet at home four times a day. It is assumed that all of them go to work or school, and use the facilities there during the day:*

**Family # 1:** has an older-style single-flush toilet which uses 12 L each time they press the button. Their toilet water consumption is 192 L/day.

**Family # 2:** has a modern dual-flush pan and cistern. It uses only 3 L for half-flush (which they use three times per person each day), and 6 L for a full one (which each person uses once daily). Their toilet water consumption is 60 L/day.

**Saving: \$48 per year**

You may want to consider fitting your rainwater tank to your toilet; this will reduce your toilet consumption entirely, as it is running of rain water. it may also be feasible for you to install a dual flush cistern.

### **Dishwasher**

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*Let's assume each family uses their dishwasher once a day:*

**Family # 1:** The first family has an older model, using 40 L per wash.

**Family # 2:** have a water efficient dishwasher that does the same job with only 18L.

**Saving: \$8 per year**

While this is only a small saving, it means about 8000 L less water down the drain each year.

### **Washing machine**

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*Let's assume each family runs their washing machine once a day on average:*

**Family # 1:** has a typical top loader, which uses about 150 L of water in a normal program.

**Family # 2:** uses an efficient front loader that does the same job with about 75 L.

**Saving: \$27 per year**

While front loaders can cost up to several hundred dollars more to buy than top loaders, they'll also save you hundreds in combined water. Connecting your rainwater tank to your washing machine means that you can save 100% off your washing machine consumption, and only pay for the energy which is being used to run it.

### **Bathroom tap**

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*Let's assume that the members of each family brush their teeth and wash their hands the same number of times each day:*

**Family # 1:** lets the older-style tap (18 L/minute) run while brushing teeth - adding up to five minutes per family member, or 360 L in total each day.

**Family # 2:** turns their water-efficient tap (8 L/minute) off. It only runs for two minutes per family member each day - using 64 L/day in total.

**Saving: \$108 per year**

### **Total**

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Family # 1: consumes about 1500 L of water per day.

**Family # 2:** consumes about 400 L of water per day

**Total savings: \$395 per year on the water bill alone!**