

# Great ideas to help you save water

## HOW CAN I KEEP MY GARDEN ALIVE?

We all love our gardens and want to do everything possible to keep them alive. So what are the options?

### USE A BUCKET

The simplest and cheapest greywater system available to everyone is a bucket or container.

- ➔ Place it in the shower and collect the “warm up” water or even leave it at your feet to collect the run off.
- ➔ Scoop out bath or basin water.
- ➔ If possible, catch water from your washing machines last rinse cycle.
- ➔ Place a container in the sink when washing fruit and vegetables.

### GREYWATER DIVERSION

After a bucket, the next simplest thing is to connect a greywater diverter to your outdoor piping and collect the water into a large container.

### PERMANENT GREYWATER SYSTEMS

Permanent greywater systems must be installed by a licensed plumber. These systems require approval from your local council.

*Note: Greywater must be used within 24 hours of collection unless it has been treated.*

### RAINWATER HARVESTING

When it comes to watering your garden, harvested rainwater is a great option. These days, there are lots of products to choose from in a variety of colours and materials.

For more information on Sustaining Your Garden in Dry Times visit [www.savewater.com.au](http://www.savewater.com.au)



## HOW CAN I KEEP MY CAR AND DRIVEWAY CLEAN?

We understand that many people take pride in their vehicles. Here are some solutions for washing cars under water restrictions.

- ➔ Consider using greywater or rainwater from a bucket to spot clean the car. A good option is to collect the “warm up” water when showering or running a bath.
- ➔ Water-free car washing products are starting to appear on the market. This is a great alternative for keeping your car clean. Information about this product is available at [www.savewater.com.au](http://www.savewater.com.au).
- ➔ Use a broom to sweep the driveway or an air blower for fast results.

## HOW DO I KEEP THE WINDOWS ON THE OUTSIDE OF MY HOUSE CLEAN?

It sounds simple, but the tried and tested window spray is one of the most effective ways to keep outside windows clean.

If you don't think that will do the trick and you need to use water, opt for greywater or rainwater from a bucket.

## HOW CAN I KEEP MY POOL FULL?

- ➔ Maintain chemical levels and regularly test the water.
- ➔ Place a cover over your pool to minimise water evaporation.
- ➔ Minimise splash.
- ➔ Top up with rainwater.

## I'M CONCERNED ABOUT USING ALTERNATE WATER SAFELY AND I'M NOT SURE WHAT PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE. WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

There's lots of information out there. It's just a matter of knowing who to turn to. You can contact the following organisations for information and product advice.

### WATER SAVING PRODUCTS

Savewater! Alliance  
[www.savewater.com.au](http://www.savewater.com.au)

### GREYWATER REGULATION

Environmental Protection Authority  
Ph: 9695 2722  
[www.epa.vic.gov.au/water](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/water)

### GREYWATER COLLECTION AND USE

Alternative Technology Association  
[www.ata.org.au](http://www.ata.org.au)

### SAFE USE OF DETERGENTS

Lanfax Laboratories  
[www.lanfaxlabs.com.au](http://www.lanfaxlabs.com.au)

### GENERAL ADVICE, REGULATION AND REBATES

Our Water Our Future  
Ph: 136 186  
[www.ourwater.vic.gov.au](http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au)

## OTHER GREAT WAYS TO SAVE WATER

- ➔ Install a three-star rated water efficient showerhead.
- ➔ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ➔ Install flow control valves to further reduce water use.
- ➔ When replacing your old washing machine choose one with a four-star rating.
- ➔ Only wash when you have a full load.
- ➔ Fix any dripping taps or leaking toilet cisterns.
- ➔ When waiting for running water to warm up in the kitchen or bathroom collect it and put it in the fridge or use it to water the garden.