

# 10 tips on how to be more waterwise outside your home



1. Repair dripping taps by getting the washers replaced.

If your tap is dripping at the rate of one drop per second, it can waste up to 25 litres per day.

2. Put a pool cover on your pool.

This will save you approximately 55 litres of water per day.

3. Turn off your automatic irrigation system in winter.

During the cooler months, the rainfall received is usually enough as lawns and many plants are dormant, so they need very little water. When the irrigation system is turned off it will save 200 litres of water per day. Permanent winter sprinkler bans apply to some areas between 1 June and 31 August each year. [Click here](#) to find out the watering restrictions in your area.

4. Prepare the soil before planting to ensure that plants can make the most of the water they need.

Healthy soil = healthy waterwise plants.

5. Choose waterwise plants, such as natives that have their origins in WA.

Those of local origin are perfectly adapted to our climate and have evolved over millions of years. For a list of waterwise plants, visit the Water Corporation website at [www.watercorporation.com.au](http://www.watercorporation.com.au) or visit a Waterwise Garden Centre near you.

6. Regularly check your irrigation system is working correctly and when replacing broken sprinklers, always replace like with like.

For advice on making your irrigation system more waterwise, contact a Waterwise Garden Irrigator or Waterwise Garden Design shop near you.

7. Mulch should be spread over the entire planted area to a thickness of 10cm.

Using mulch can reduce evaporation loss from the soil surface by as much as 70%.

8. Make your verge waterwise.

Get rid of unnecessary lawn – you will save time and money on watering, fertilising, mowing and weeding.

9. Plant in water-use groups. Use your drop zone guide to select and place new plants into the garden.

A plant only takes in as much water as it needs. Any excess water is wasted.

10. As the seasons change, monitor and adjust the amount of water that is applied by your automatic irrigation controller.

By running your irrigation for two minutes less you can save around 130 litres of water a minute.