



## Waterwise Land Development 5-step guide

**This guide is designed to help developers achieve endorsement for a Waterwise Land Development.**

The objective of the Waterwise Land Development program is to build a co-operative working relationship between the Land Development Industry and the Water Corporation to achieve water efficiency in new land developments.

By applying the waterwise principles outlined below the development industry have the opportunity to play an important role in conserving our State's water supply and to help make WA a more water efficient community.

Water efficiency refers to the best use of water and the Water Corporation has developed this 5-step guide to assist both current and future developers to achieve water efficiency in new and existing land developments.

The first four steps provide an outline to achieve water efficiency within a land development. The final and fifth step below outlines the evidence that must be demonstrated in order to be endorsed by the Water Corporation as a Waterwise Land Development.

The Water Corporation has also developed an [interactive Water Balance Tool](#), which can help with the initial water balance assessment of your land development. The tool calculates approximate total annual water consumption per person and helps to identify the potential non-drinking water sources and uses.

### **Step One: Achieving water efficiency and conserving water within your Public Open Space (including Entry Statement).**

The Department of Water has determined water conservation targets for Public Open Space (POS) as follows:

- Irrigation for POS regardless of where water is from (potable and/or non potable) must be no more than 7500 kilolitres per hectare, per year.

In order to address this target the developer should consider:

- The use and maintenance, given the maximum irrigation rate per hectare, per year of the POS.
- The type of vegetation. Avoid extensive turf areas that require irrigation. Employ eco-zoning and hydro-zoning principles and choose waterwise species of vegetation or retain native bushland if possible.
- Access to a secure water supply, including the use of alternative water sources. For more Information visit the [H2Options](#) section on our website, which has been developed to assist land developers consider non-drinking water schemes.





- Use of a water body within a POS. If a water body must be incorporated demonstrate the water efficiency and water conservation attributes e.g. water body is constructed using local water which can be recycled.
- Contacting a Water Corporation endorsed Waterwise Specialist to assist with water efficient landscape and irrigation design of POS. Waterwise Specialists can advise on overall landscape and irrigation design, installation and plant selection. To find your nearest Waterwise Specialist, visit [watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au)

**Step Two:** Ensure that all buildings within the development meet minimum or better water efficiency standards and shows innovation in the use of alternate water sources.

There are many methods that can be used for improving efficiency and supplying recycled water within your development.

- For simple methods to reduce water demand and potable water use [click here](#).  
*Source: Adapted from GHD*
- After referring to the link above, enter your data into the Water Balance Tool to demonstrate overall savings.
- The Green Building Council of Australia has developed a grading system to achieve a 60% reduction in water use throughout conventional buildings. This tool helps to identify what can be adapted in your development.

To view the Green Star Rating Tool, visit [www.gbca.org.au](http://www.gbca.org.au) and click on the *Green Star* link.

- The Water Corporation Guidelines for Waterwise Homes and Gardens provides an outline of how to be more water efficient inside and outside the home. The Guidelines are available on our [website](#).

*These guidelines are also used to assess the water efficiency categories of major building industry awards to help recognise and promote those builders and developers leading the way in water efficiency.*

- Mandate the use of waterwise irrigation systems along with appropriate soil amendment, plant selection and landscape design.

**Step Three:** Ensure there are specific clauses that reflect water efficiency requirements within the general conditions of sale. These should be in relation to both private and public buildings and building of display villages.

Some examples of general clauses reflecting water efficiency and water conservation include:

- Flow reduction valves are required for all buildings.
- All gardens must be waterwise and irrigation installed according to Irrigation Australia WA Waterwise Garden Irrigator Program [Irrigation Design System Specifications](#). To view these standards click here:





- Subject to endorsement by a Waterwise Specialist in relation to design, irrigation installation and plant selection.
- The project must maximise the use of Waterwise Land Development principles. For example alternate water sources are installed or the capacity to install systems is provided e.g. third pipe for greywater and rainwater tanks.
- Public buildings are designed to optimise rainwater harvesting and plumbed back into the building for use in toilets or laundries.  
For example, rainwater collected from the roof or car park can be used for POS watering, a public swimming pool or plumbed back into the building and used for toilets or laundry.
- Any Display Village is required to participate in the Waterwise Display Village program. For more details on this program visit [watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au) and to go Being Waterwise.

To find your nearest Waterwise Specialist or view the Waterwise Display Village Program standards visit our [website](http://watercorporation.com.au).

### **Step Four: Put systems in place to educate the community on water efficiency and water conservation.**

This can be achieved by:

- Providing marketing material that demonstrates how water efficiency can be achieved. For example, residents should be informed if they are buying a property with the highest WELS rated fittings. Endorsed Waterwise Land Developments will be provided with marketing material including the Waterwise logo to promote themselves as Waterwise.
- Promote the Waterwise Land Development on developer's website as well as providing additional hints and tips on how to be waterwise inside and outside the home. Developers may provide links on websites to the Water Corporation and Department of Water.
- Providing educational workshops for the residential community on water efficiency, such as waterwise gardening and irrigation workshops.
- Encourage engagement and participation in the Water Corporation's suite of Waterwise Programs including; Waterwise Garden Centres, Garden Irrigators, Irrigation Design Shops, Lawnmowing Contractors, Plumbers, Landscapers, Display Villages, Schools and Businesses.
- Education through public art using water efficiency as a theme.





## Step Five: Submit a proposal to the Water Corporation demonstrating how the development addresses the above guidelines including all supporting documentation.

Proposals should address and include the following:

- Water efficiency measures within the POS.
- How buildings address minimum or better water efficiency standards through innovation.
- Specific clauses in the general conditions of sale that reflect water efficiency.
- Systems that have been put in place to educate the community on water efficiency.
- Completed details using the Water Balance Tool.

Proposals, completed Water Balance Tool and any relevant supporting documentation should be submitted to:

Water Efficiency Projects Branch  
Waterwise Land Developments  
Water Corporation  
PO Box 100  
LEEDERVILLE WA 6007

View an example of an [endorsed developer's submission](#).

