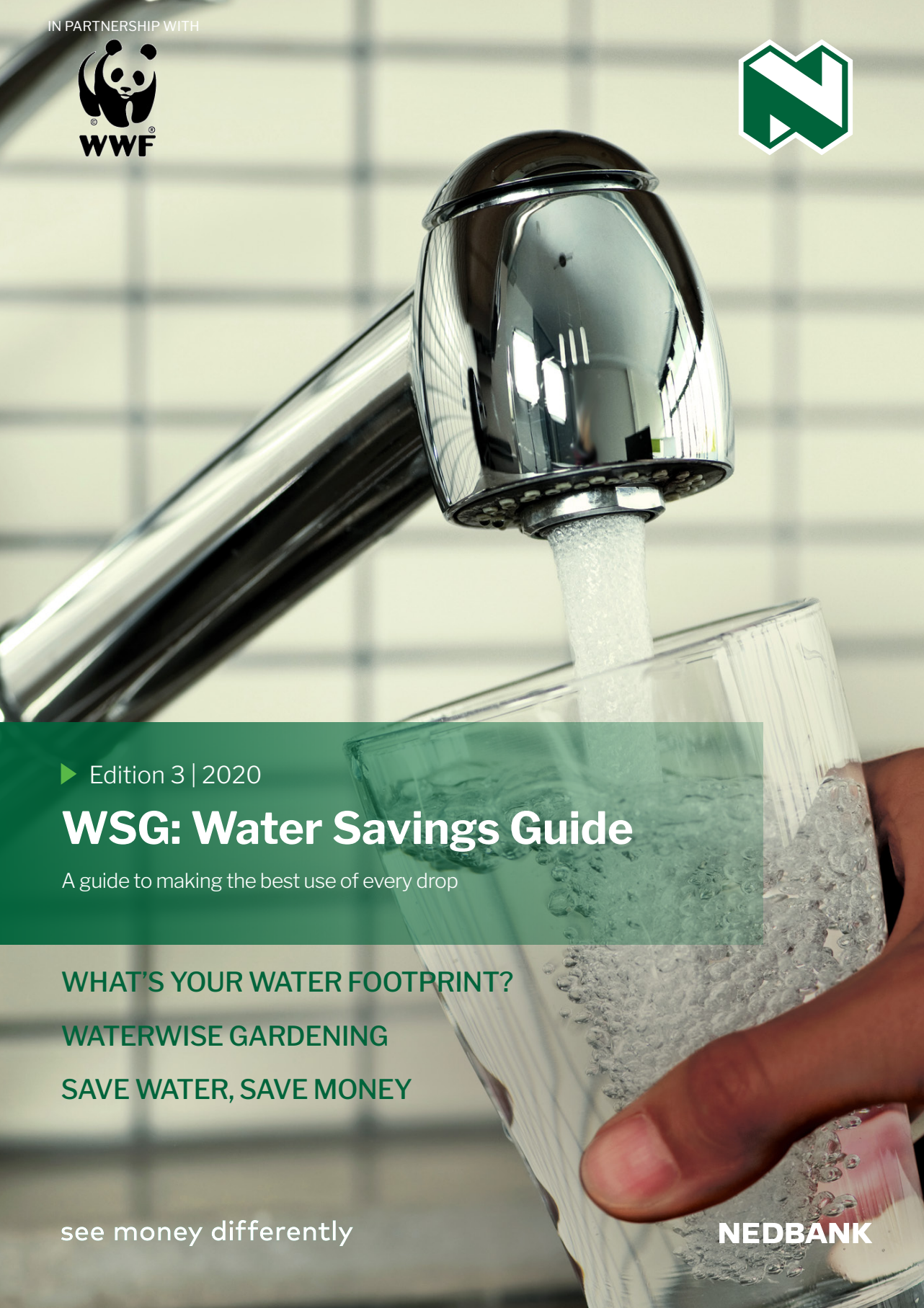
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

WWF



Edition 3 | 2020

WSG: Water Savings Guide

A guide to making the best use of every drop

WHAT'S YOUR WATER FOOTPRINT?

WATERWISE GARDENING

SAVE WATER, SAVE MONEY

see money differently

NEDBANK

water savings guide

EDITION 1

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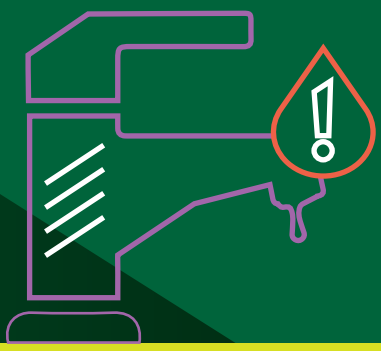


A tap leaking at a rate of one drop per second **can waste up to 11 000 litres of water a year.**

A water-secure future starts with each of us

For those of us not facing water challenges every day it's easy to lose sight of the importance of saving water wherever we can. But the reality is that South Africa is a water-stressed country. And an increasingly water-constrained future is one of the most adverse effects climate change has on our world. It is therefore crucial that we are all aware of the important role we play in making sure that our precious water resources don't dry up completely.

> Each of us has a vital role to play. It may not seem like you're doing much by turning off the tap when you brush your teeth or flushing the toilet fewer times, but **if every South African used just 10 litres less water every day**, we could save up to **580 million litres of water a day**. To put that into perspective, it's enough water to fill more than **230 Olympic-size swimming pools**.

Of course, savings like these are possible only if we all do our part. That's why, as a business that's committed to using its financial expertise to do good, Nedbank is committed to help meet the United Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

> This includes support for SDG 6 – clean water and sanitation – that sees Nedbank financing water-related infrastructure and water efficiency technologies for our clients and reducing usage at our own operations.

We have also compiled this *Water Savings Guide* to help you become more mindful of how you use water. Follow these guidelines and tips, and you'll be doing your bit to save water every day. Also, have a look at the other sustainability guides Nedbank has put together, aimed at helping everyone in South Africa live more sustainably. They're all listed on **page 4** of this guide.

Remember, good water stewardship is everyone's responsibility. Together we can, and must, create a more water-secure future, for ourselves and future generations.

Raisibe.

Raisibe Morathi
Chief Financial Officer: Nedbank

It's time to take action

If we, as South Africans, want to meet our shared aspirations of social and economic development, we all need to prioritise the effective use and management of our already scarce water resources. And that starts with understanding and acknowledging that water does not come from a tap or a dam, but that it is the result of healthy, well-functioning ecosystems, of which we are an integral part.

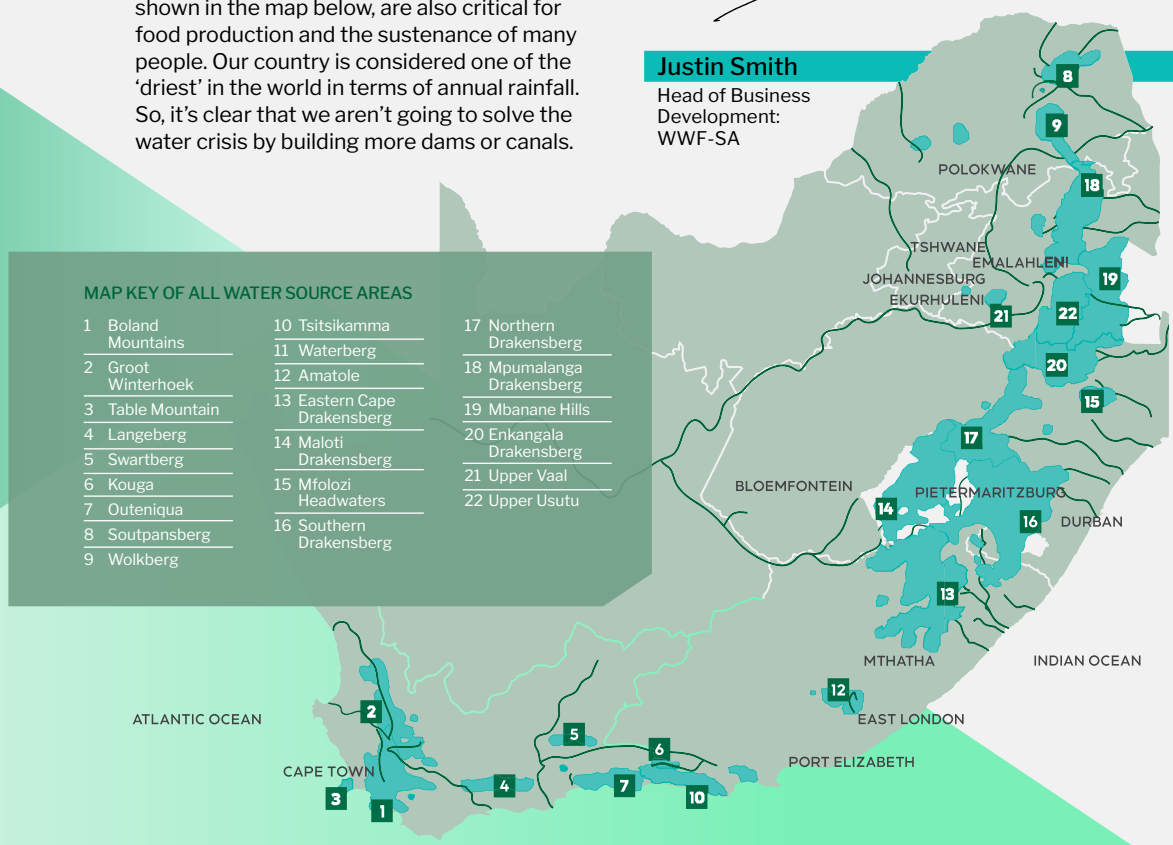
Research by WWF-SA and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has found that only 10% of South Africa's total land area delivers about 50% of the country's river flow. These strategic water source areas, shown in the map below, are also critical for food production and the sustenance of many people. Our country is considered one of the 'driest' in the world in terms of annual rainfall. So, it's clear that we aren't going to solve the water crisis by building more dams or canals.

> The only solution is to protect what we have and commit to using less water.

WWF's vision is to inspire people to live in harmony with nature. We need to plan, act and work together to create a water-secure future. And everyone has a vital role to play in doing that. You can start by simply reading this guide and putting some of the principles and tips into practice in your daily life.

Justin

Justin Smith
Head of Business Development: WWF-SA



MAP KEY OF ALL WATER SOURCE AREAS

1. Boland Mountains
2. Groot Winterhoek
3. Table Mountain
4. Langeberg
5. Swartberg
6. Kouga
7. Outeniqua
8. Soutpansberg
9. Wolkberg
10. Tsitsikamma
11. Waterberg
12. Amatole
13. Eastern Cape Drakensberg
14. Maloti Drakensberg
15. Mfolozi Headwaters
16. Southern Drakensberg
17. Northern Drakensberg
18. Mpumalanga Drakensberg
19. Mbanane Hills
20. Enkangala Drakensberg
21. Upper Vaal
22. Upper Usutu

Live more sustainable with these Nedbank guides

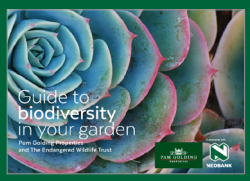
This *Water Savings Guide* is part of a series of sustainability guides compiled by Nedbank and partners and are freely available to individuals, communities and businesses in SA. **Other guides include**:

The *Nedbank Smart Living Guide*

An A-Z handbook on how to live a more sustainable life and save money.

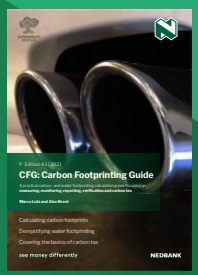
The *Nedbank Food Savers' Guide*

A guide on how to get the most from your food and limit the amount you waste.



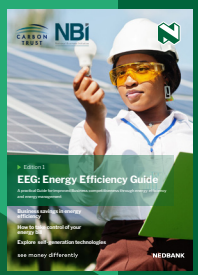
The *Guide to biodiversity in your garden*

A comprehensive guide on protecting and encouraging biodiversity and water saving in your garden.



The *Nedbank Carbon Footprinting Guide*

A practical carbon and water footprinting calculation guide focusing on measuring, monitoring, reporting, verification and carbon tax. This guide is particularly useful for companies, as they need to adhere to carbon tax requirements.

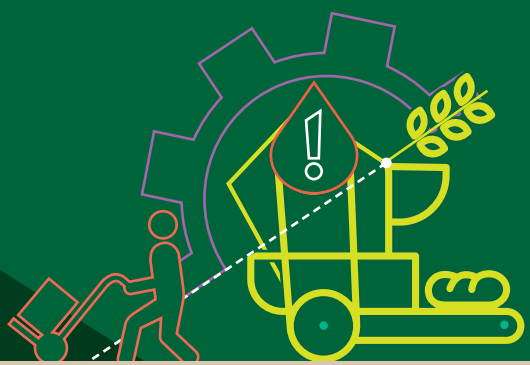


The *Nedbank Energy Efficiency Guide*

A handy guide to enhance business competitiveness through energy efficiency and management.

Click here to download these guides for free.

2 Without water, we won't have a world

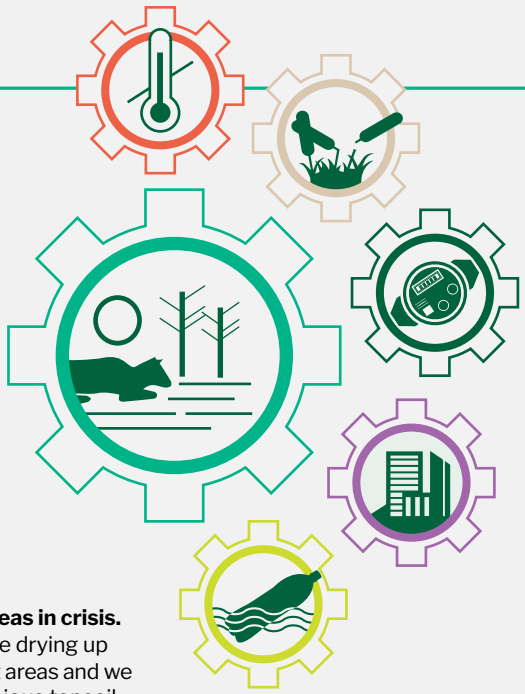


It takes about 25 000 litres of water to produce, **package and transport one day's food for a typical middle-class family of four.**

It's human not to think much about an issue until we find ourselves in a crisis. Our relationship with water is a prime example. Many of us fortunate enough to have ready access to water have taken it for granted. Easy access to water has fooled us into believing that water is something that flows from a tap when you open it. But water doesn't come from a tap. By the time water flows into your glass, sink, shower or hosepipe, it has gone through a long and complex journey. It has started off as rain, progressed through catchment areas, streams, rivers, dams, municipal treatment plants, pumps and pipes and eventually arrived at its destination – from where it will start the cycle all over again in one form or another.

A bleak view of Theewaterskloof, one of the Western Cape's big six dams, shows the extent of the drought, the worst in the province in 100 years. © 2017. City of Cape Town.

SOUTH AFRICA'S WATER (CRISIS) CYCLE



Unfortunately, a combination of increasing water scarcity due to climate change, neglect of our catchment areas and water infrastructure, and a lack of awareness among individuals and businesses about the vital need to manage our water usage has resulted in the water cycle turning into a crisis cycle for South Africa.

CLIMATE

Change is already here. Droughts and floods are our future. We have to start adapting now.

LAND

Catchment areas in crisis. Alien plants are drying up our catchment areas and we are losing precious topsoil.

WATER USE

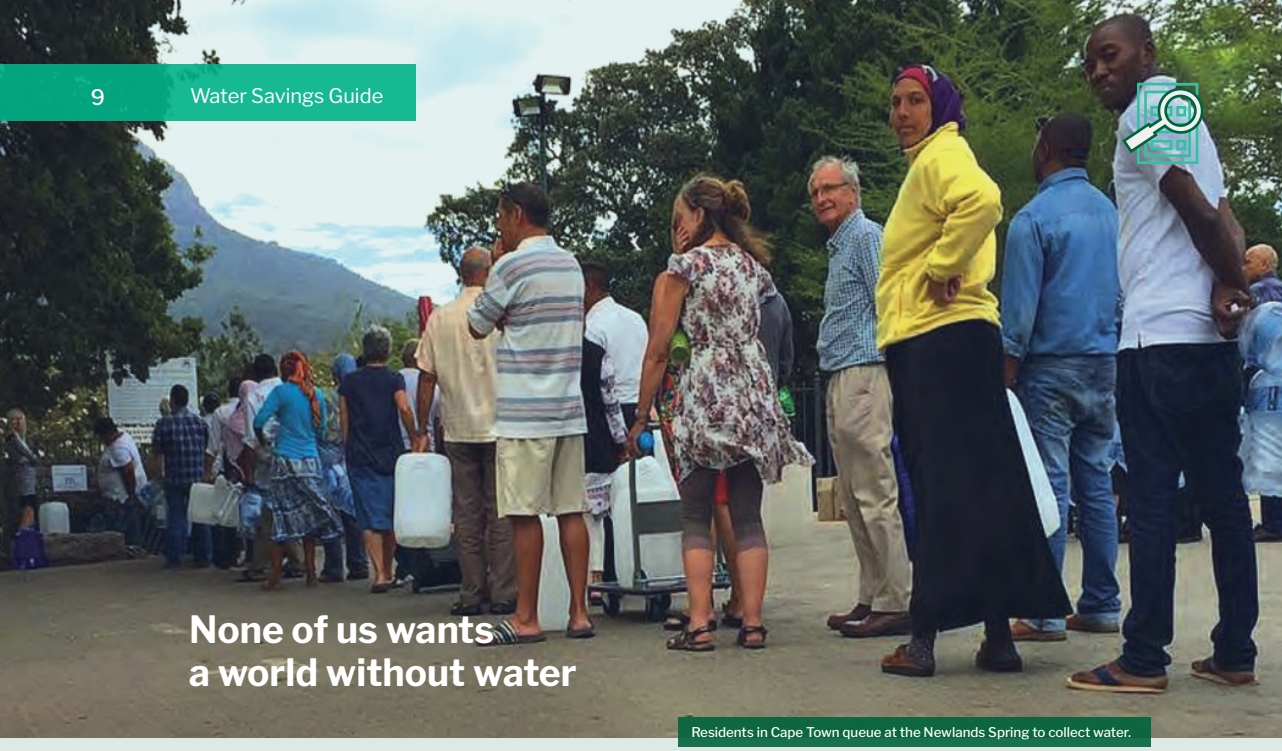
We've lost count, lost sight and lost our way. We need to know how much we're using and losing to save water and use it more effectively.

CITIES

Not yet water sensitive nor water smart. We could reuse more water by means of climate-smart technologies and natural infrastructure.

POLLUTION

Ageing and failing infrastructure. This results in unacceptable pollution levels, so we need better waste management. We also have to ensure polluters pay and clean up.



None of us wants a world without water

Residents in Cape Town queue at the Newlands Spring to collect water.

It may seem like water supply is endless, but the opposite is true. Water is a finite resource and it's under threat. That's why we all need to stop taking water for granted and start protecting it for the valuable, life-giving resource it is.

As a responsible bank, with a purpose to use our financial expertise to do good for individuals, families, businesses and society, Nedbank has made water stewardship a priority in all areas of our business. And we are committed to partnering with people, communities, businesses and government to build a community of conscious, concerned and purpose-driven water stewards who work together to save water in all areas of their lives. The *Nedbank Water Savings Guide* is intended to be one of the valuable tools in the water-saving arsenal of every household in South Africa.

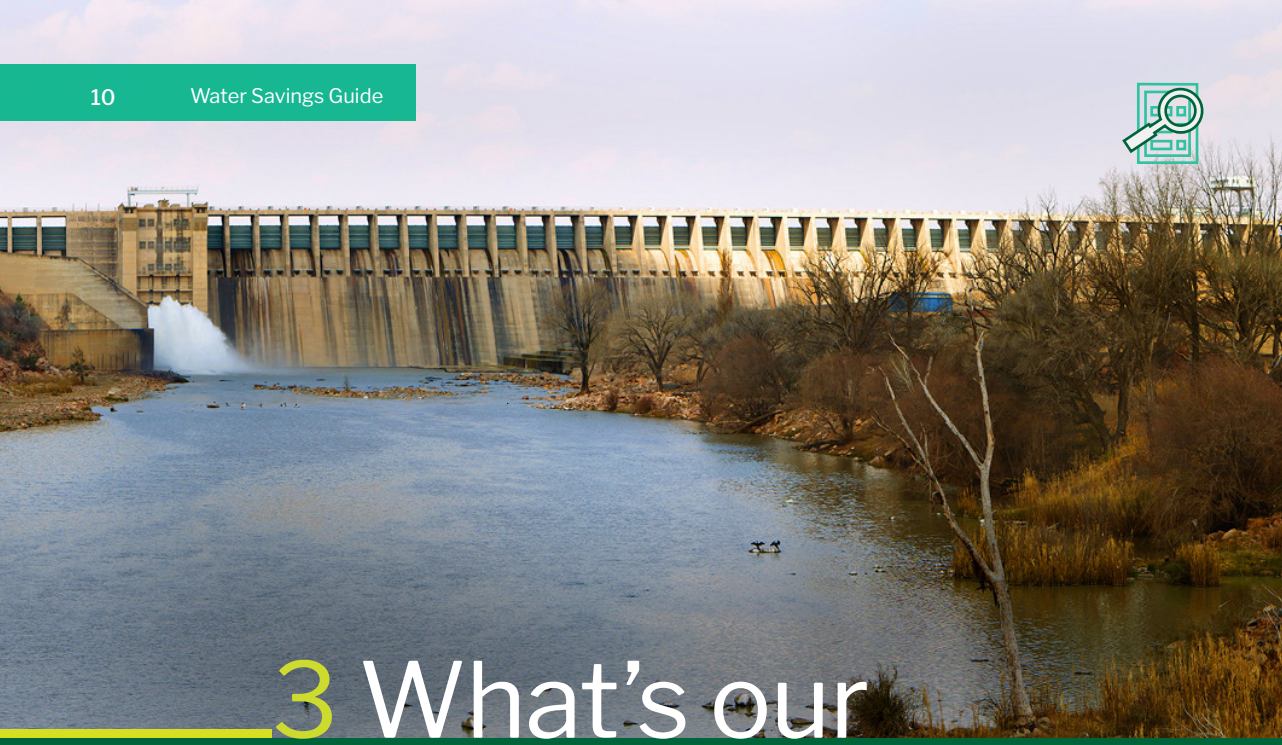
> There is no plan B. South Africa is water stressed and, in the face of climate change, it is only going to get worse. **While it may not impact you directly right now, it will in the future – unless we all take decisive action today**.

> Taking action means acknowledging that water is a very scarce resource. It means changing the way we think about and use water. It means committing to being water wise and efficient.

The severe water shortages experienced in Cape Town and large parts of the Eastern Cape and Limpopo should be a wake-up call for all of us. None of us wants to be restricted to 50 litres of water or less a day. Nobody needs the stress of wondering whether today is going to be the day when we turn on the taps and nothing happens. It's up to all of us to prevent this from becoming our reality. The responsibility for saving water doesn't rest on the shoulders of government, municipalities or businesses. It lies with every single person living in South Africa.

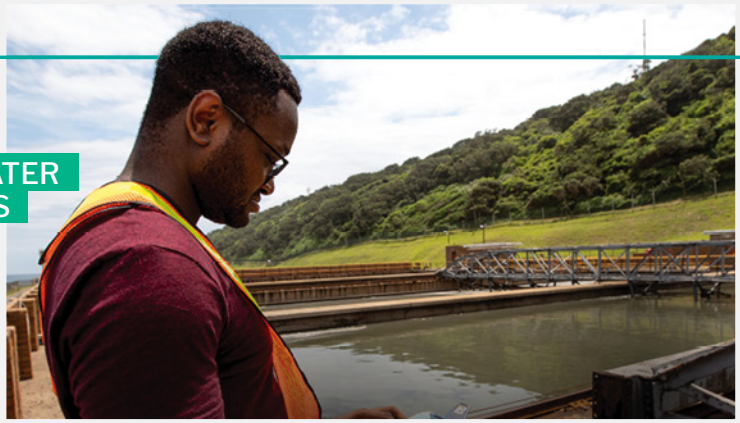
> Making small changes to the way we use water today means we won't have to make huge sacrifices tomorrow.

So, if we don't want a tomorrow without water, we need to do something about it today. And that means each doing our bit to save water wherever we can.



3 What's our **water reality?**

Our water source areas support approximately 60% of South Africa's **population and 67% of our national economic activity.**



SOUTH AFRICA'S WATER – DISTURBING FACTS

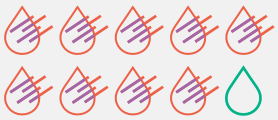
Water constraints are real. Have a look at South Africa's water reality.

WE LIVE IN A DRY COUNTRY

By global standards, South Africa has very low and unreliable rainfall that is unevenly distributed across the country. Our national average annual rainfall is 490 mm, which is half the global average.

WE HAVE A HIGHLY VARIABLE CLIMATE

It's not uncommon for one part of the country to experience drought while another, not too far away, is dealing with flooding. And climate change is making it worse.



IT IS HOT AND GETTING EVEN HOTTER

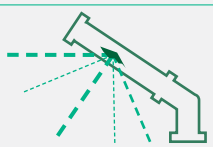
High temperatures across the country lead to high evaporation rates. And because so much water evaporates so quickly, it's estimated that less than 9% of the rain we get ends up in our rivers.

WATER DEMAND IS INCREASING

Water demand in South Africa has increased steeply in recent years, driven mainly by the agriculture sector (63%) and the municipal and industrial sectors (26% and 11% respectively). This demand is expected to keep growing at around 1% a year.

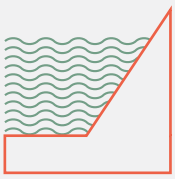
HOW WE USE WATER PUTS ITS QUALITY AT RISK

Much of South Africa's economy is built around farming and mining, and centuries of unsustainable industrial water practices have resulted in increased risks of water quality degradation.



THERE IS A LACK OF MAINTENANCE

South Africa has not prioritised water infrastructure maintenance due to a large range of sometimes competing priorities. As a result, up to 37% of our water is wasted once it has entered our engineered water systems and infrastructure.



WE CAN'T BUILD MORE DAMS

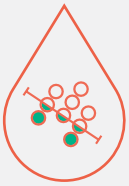
There are only a few places left in the country where the building of more large dams would be feasible. However, because of the high costs involved, as well as the inefficiency of water collection structures due to silting and evaporation, it's not an ideal option. Our freshwater collection infrastructure is limited, and we've already allocated about 98% of the water being collected in dams. That means there is simply no more water available for a growing population.

WE HAVE VERY FEW CATCHMENT AREAS

Most of South Africa's water comes from mountainous catchment areas that receive the highest rainfall. There are 22 of these catchments, known as water source areas, across the country. So, 10% of our country's total land area provides around 50% of the surface water runoff needed to fill our dams and rivers (see map on **page 3**).

MORE PEOPLE NEED MORE WATER

The South African population is growing fast, and more people means higher water demand. Water is also an essential cornerstone of sustainable economic growth. But our water source areas simply can't meet this increasing demand. It is estimated that by 2025, at least 11 of South Africa's water catchment areas will not be able to supply enough water to meet the needs of those who depend on them.



ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCES ARE EXPENSIVE

There are various ways to supplement the water that is collected naturally. These include desalination (turning seawater into fresh water) and groundwater harvesting. However, these processes are extremely expensive and, given South Africa's economic challenges, there's currently simply not enough money to invest in these alternative water technologies.

What's the solution?

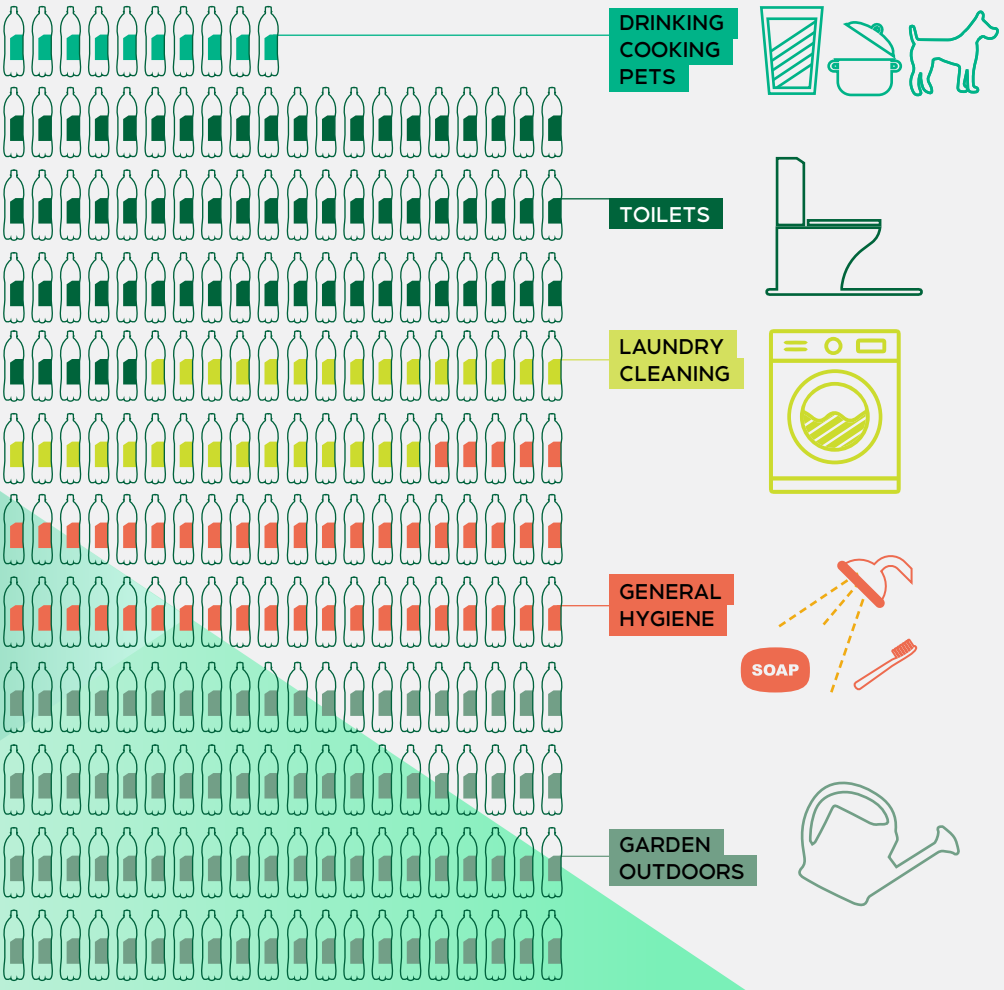
Given that our water resources are finite, the only way to ensure that we continue to have enough water today and for the future is to manage and reduce our demand. That means treating every drop of water as precious and doing our bit to **use less, save more and stop wasting**. We have compiled some simple, easy-to-follow tips on how you and your family can become much more effective at saving water simply by making a few minor changes in how you think about and use it in your home. You also reap the rewards that go hand in hand with water-saving actions – saving water will save you money.

4 What's your **water footprint?**

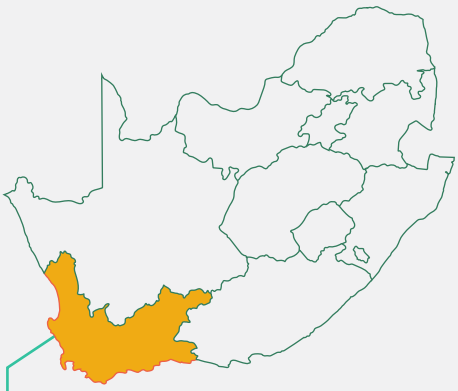
It takes three times more water
to produce milk than vegetables.

Stewardship means a commitment to taking care of something you don't own. In a world where water is becoming scarcer every year, we all have a responsibility to be good water stewards, and that begins with knowledge. Having a solid understanding of how much water you're actually using (and possibly wasting) every day is the best starting point from which to reduce consumption. So, to get an idea of where you are starting on your water-saving journey, let's have a look at the typical water usage figures for the average middle-class South African.

> The typical middle-class South African uses around **230 litres of water**[1] every day. This total water consumption can typically be broken down into various categories of usage:

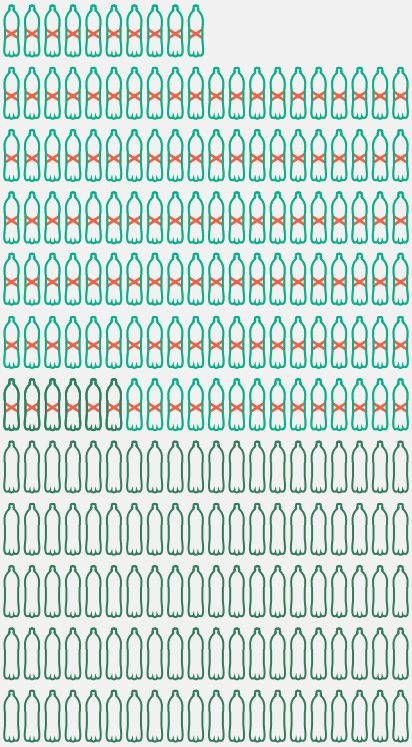


[1] Based on most recent (2015/16) estimates provided by the National Department of Water and Sanitation.



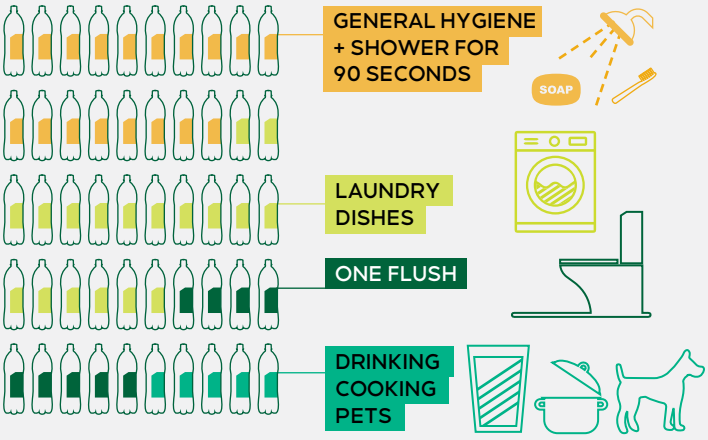
In 2019 due to severe water challenges, the City of Cape Town urged people to limit their water usage to a maximum of **105 litres a day** (less than 50% of the average figure) to avoid placing long-term strain on available water resources.

Although it may seem like a massive reduction in water usage, it's certainly achievable – as many water-conscious Capetonians have demonstrated.



Living the 50-litre-a-day life[2]

During the height of the 'Day Zero' water crisis, this figure went down to **50 litres a day**.



The tips in this guide can help you get there.

If you're particularly committed to conserving water (as we all should be), you could also work towards living the 50-litre-a-day life.

[2] *CCT Household Water Use Guide.*

WAYS TO KNOW EXACTLY HOW MUCH WATER YOU'RE USING

MONITOR YOUR METER

Make a note of your water meter reading early on the first day of the month and check it again on the last day of the same month. The difference is the total amount of water your household has used for that month. Then divide that by the number of people in your household – that's your water consumption per person for a month. Divide that number by the number of days in the month and you have your average daily water consumption. Remember, that doesn't include any water you've used or consumed away from home. Also, note that if you have an older water meter, it may show your figure as m^3. This is the same as kilolitres (kℓ), so multiply by 1 000 to get the amount in litres.

ASSESS YOUR ACCOUNT

METER NO: 789[3]
CONSUMPTION: 35,000 kℓ
DAILY AVERAGE: 1,207 kℓ

CONSUMPTION CHARGE (DOMESTIC)
AND FROM 22/06/2019:
(1) 1,7753 kℓ @ R13,68
(2) 1,3315 kℓ @ R19,46
(3) 7,2493 kℓ @ R27,63
(4) 0,5058 kℓ @ R60,66
AND FROM 01/07/2019:
(1) 3,9344 kℓ @ R14,91
(2) 2,9589 kℓ @ R21,21
(3) 16,1096 kℓ @ R30,12
(4) 1,1350 kℓ @ R66,12

A simpler way is to take a closer look at your monthly water account. Most municipalities provide a daily average water usage under the water billing section. This is usually in kℓ. To get the daily average litres, multiply the figure by 1 000. Then, to get an estimate of individual water use, divide that number by the number of people in your household. If your municipality doesn't provide an average daily figure, you'll need to add up the amounts listed on the account and divide the total by the number of days between the readings.

IMPORTANT NOTE: OFTEN, BECAUSE NO ACTUAL WATER READINGS HAVE BEEN TAKEN, YOUR WATER BILL IS AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT ONLY. IF YOU WANT A TRUE INDICATION OF YOUR WATER USAGE, BE SURE TO DO THE SUMS USING A STATEMENT WITH ACTUAL READINGS, OR TAKE YOUR OWN READINGS.

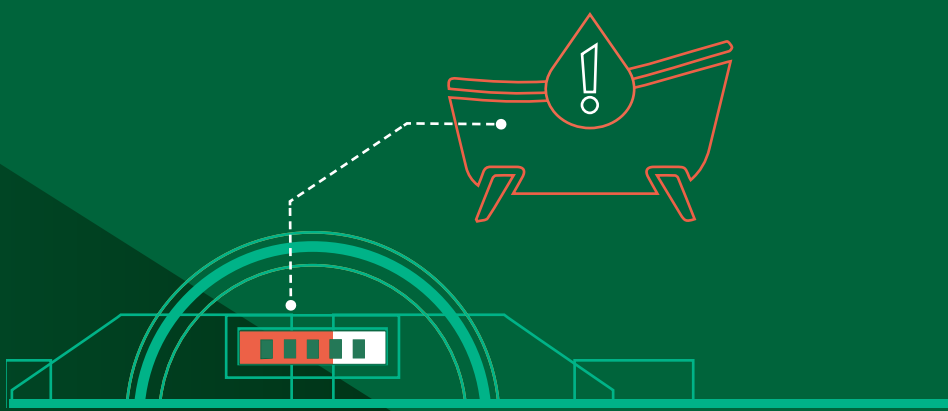
WORK IT OUT ONLINE

There are many water usage calculators available online. A good example is the one provided by the City of Cape Town, which is available **here**. While these calculators are by no means exact, they do offer a good idea of your household's average daily or monthly water use.

Now that you know, it's time to start saving

While water is essential for day-to-day living, it is possible to use much less than you have been. Keep making small adjustments to your water usage habits, and before you know it, your water meter readings will start coming down. This will not only help save valuable water resources, but it will also save you money. The smaller your water footprint, the more money you'll save.

5 A water-efficient home



About two-thirds of water usage in an average **home with a small (or no) garden happens in the bathroom.**

Ways to save water in the kitchen and laundry

While it's not the biggest water guzzler in the home (that dubious honour belongs to the bathroom), the kitchen is one of the places where significant water savings success can be achieved. All it takes is a little thought and commitment and a few changes to your behaviour while you're cooking, cleaning and eating.

Use your machines – but less often

As unlikely as it may seem, your modern frontloader washing machine and your dishwasher use much less water to clean a full load of clothes or dishes than you would use doing them by hand. A water-efficient frontloader needs only about 90 litres of water for a full load, which includes rinsing. To do the same quantity of washing in your bath, you would use a lot more water, especially for rinsing. That said, even an efficient washing machine can be one of the biggest water guzzlers in your home. So, you may want to think about washing your clothes less often (see the 'Refresh before you wash' tip on page 25).

Dishwashers are even more efficient water savers. The modern dishwasher needs only about 10 to 15 litres to clean a full load of dishes. If you were doing the same number of dishes in your sink, you'd probably use double that. And if the dishes aren't very dirty, you can almost halve the water your machine uses by simply choosing a shorter, more economical cycle.

These water usage figures apply to most newer washing machines and dishwashers, but even some older models offer good water efficiency. If you're in the market for a new machine, be sure to look for one that is the right size for your household needs and carries the best possible water and energy efficiency ratings (preferably an A or A+).

Running dishwashers and washing machines with full loads less often saves not only water but money too – immediately and sustainably. You'll use less electricity this way and decrease the wear and tear on your appliances, leading to them lasting longer.

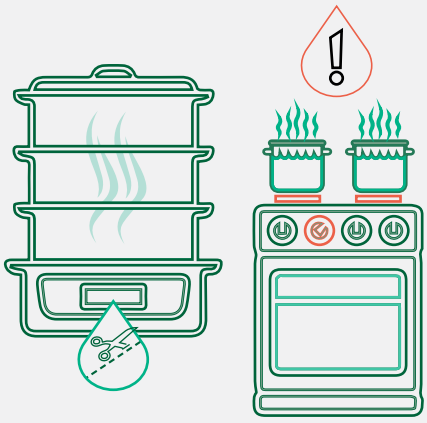
Quick kitchen tips

- Reuse your glass or mug throughout the day to use less water washing up.
- Don't buy prewashed food. Manufacturers use much more water to wash produce than you do.
- In summer put a jug of drinking water in the fridge.
- Catch water while you wait for it to warm up, and then use that water to fill the kettle or put it in a jug in the fridge to enjoy later.
- Install aerators and flow-reducing valves on all your taps.
- If you drop an ice cube, don't throw it in the sink. Put it in a pot plant.
- Don't scrape off dirty pots and pans under running water. Soak them, then reuse the water if you can.
- Use a smaller amount of dishwashing soap – it means less rinsing.
- Wash fruit and vegetables in a bowl, not the sink. Afterwards, use the same water to water plants.

Save water when cooking

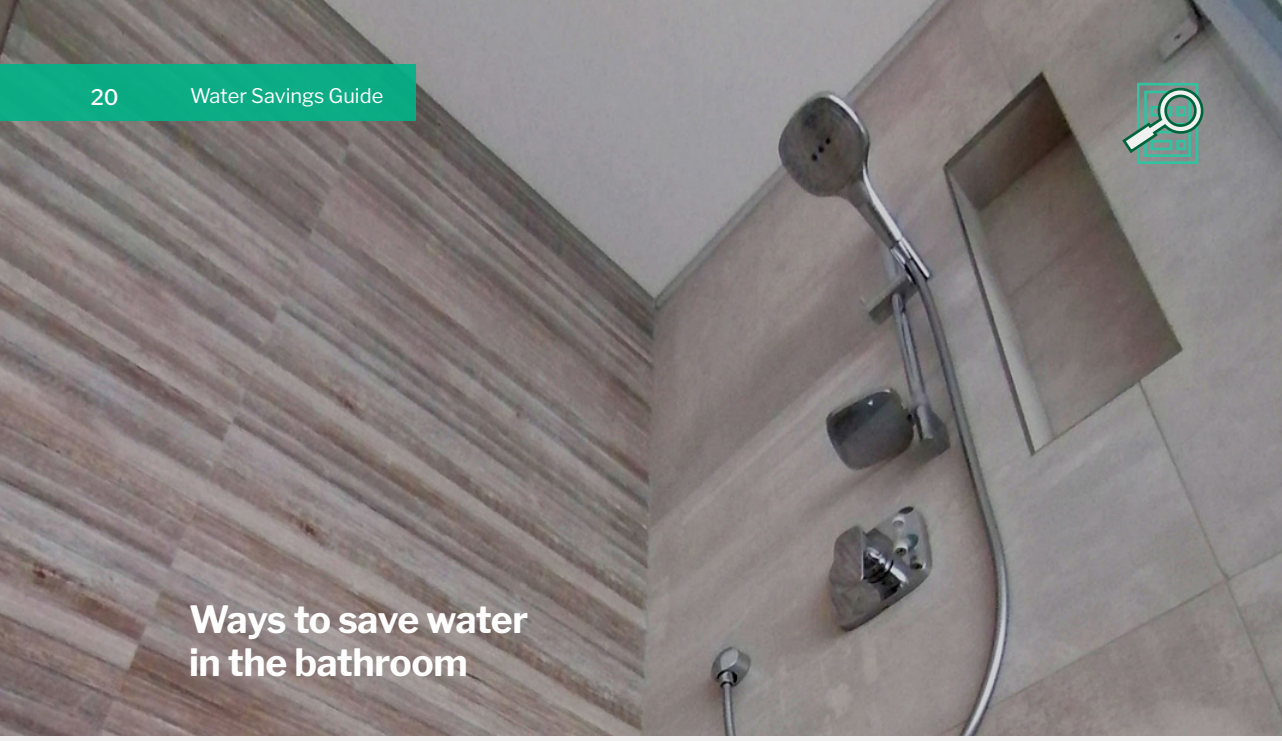
While most of us are aware of huge water wastage from leaving taps running or doing half-loads in the dishwasher, only a few of us know just how much water we waste through thoughtless cooking practices.

> The best way to save water when you're cooking a delicious homemade meal is to go for a one-pot-pressure-cooker or slow-cooker recipe rather than have multiple pans on the stove at a time.



Not only will you use less water for the actual cooking process, but the washing up is quicker, easier and more water efficient as well. And if you have a big pot but only one or two people to feed, consider cooking more and freezing leftovers for later. No additional cooking or water required!

> If you do need to make several different dishes for a meal, try being inventive: steam the vegetables over the pot of rice or pasta and keep the cooking water to add to soups, grains, gravy and stock.



Ways to save water in the bathroom

Most of the indoor water usage of the average household takes place in the bathroom. It's also the place where we tend to waste the most water. But by being a little more cognisant and making a few simple behaviour changes, the bathroom can actually be the place where you save the most water.

Get fit for purpose

Older or poorly designed showerheads can be very wasteful, releasing up to 15 litres of water or more per minute. By fitting a water-efficient, low-flow showerhead, you can cut the flow rate by up to half, and still enjoy a comfortable shower. Water-saving showerheads also help you save electricity as they release less hot water from the geyser, so it doesn't have to work as hard to reheat the water after you've showered.

And it's not just in the shower where better-designed nozzles are valuable water-saving tools.

> Tap aerators can be fitted to basin and sink taps as well. They add air to the water as it flows through, reducing the amount you need (and use) to wash your hands, brush your teeth or rinse food and other items.

Catch your shower water

Put a bucket or other large plastic container in your shower to collect the water while you shower. If you're having a short, two-minute shower, you'll still be able to fill up the container.

> Then use that water to flush your toilets. These water savings add up very quickly, making this one of the most important water stewardship routines you can follow at home.

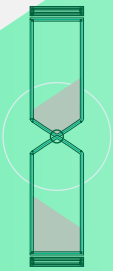
Take a quick shower

While taking a shower is more water efficient than having a bath, the amount of water you'll save still depends on how long you spend under that jet. Depending on the showerhead and how much you turn on your taps, taking a 15-minute shower can use almost 100 litres of water, which is not a whole lot less than running a bath.

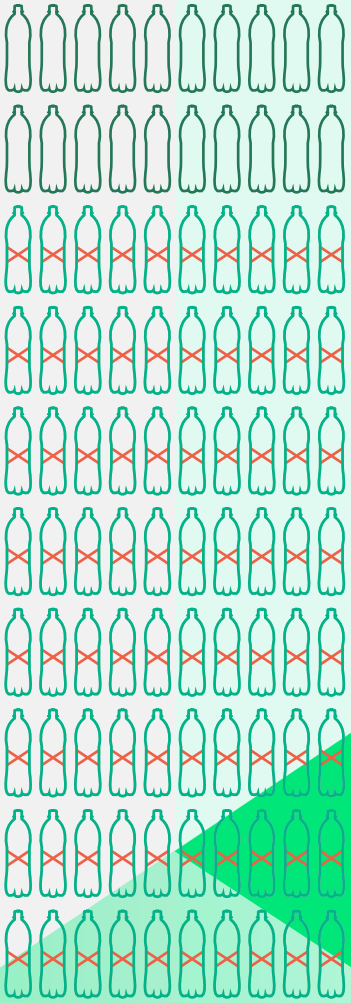
> But if you shorten your shower time, you can cut water use considerably. **A two-minute shower – which is ample time to get clean** if you work quickly – uses only about 20 litres of water.

To reduce your water usage in the shower even more follow these easy tips:

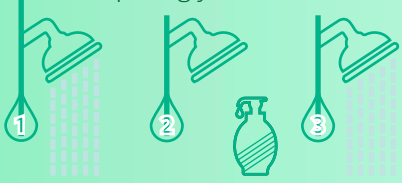
> Get a shower timer – it looks like an egg timer, but for the shower, and it will help ensure you **don't lose track of time** while you're in the shower.

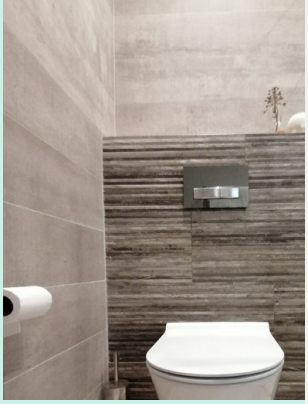


TAKE A **2-MINUTE** SHOWER AND SAVE:



Turn off the taps while you are soaping your body or shampooing your hair.



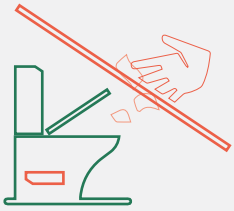


Quick bathroom tips

- Don't rinse your razor under running water. Run a little water in the basin or a container and give it a good underwater shake every now and then.
- Put a water-saving device (a filled bottle or even a brick will work) in your toilet cistern to reduce the amount of water used with each flush.
- Install a dual-flush mechanism for your cistern.
- Don't leave the tap running while you brush your teeth.
- Shower instead of bathing, but make it a quick one.

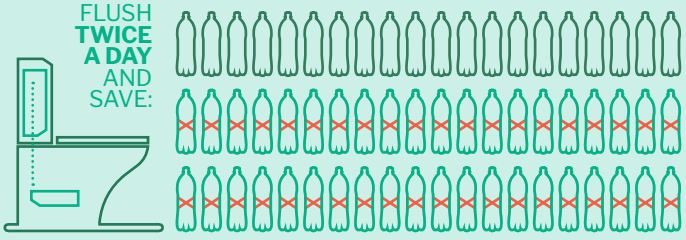
Let it mellow

Arguably one of the most talked-about tips to save water during the Cape Town water crisis was minimising the number of times people flushed their toilets – and with good reason. Toilet flushes are the biggest water waster in most households, with up to 12 litres of perfectly good drinking water going down the drain every time you reach for that handle.



Don't use your toilet as a bin

For many people it has become a habit to dispose of tissues, dead insects and other rubbish in the toilet. Apart from it being bad for the sewerage system, every time you use your toilet as a bin in this way, you're flushing away up to 12 litres of water – not to mention wasting money too. Use your toilet only for the purposes it was intended and dispose of rubbish where it's meant to go – in the rubbish bin.



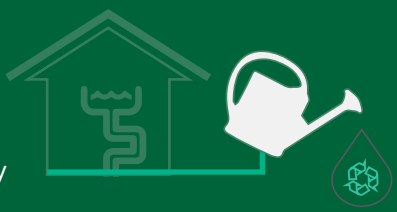
While using grey water (water you've collected from the kitchen or bathroom) for flushing helps reduce this wastage, the best way of making your bathroom more water efficient is to get out of the habit of flushing when you don't need to. Some people still baulk at 'if it's yellow let it mellow', but the truth is that there are no health risks involved in leaving urine in the toilet for the better part of a day. If you're concerned about odours, there are a lot of microbial flushing products that will neutralise the smell and keep your bathroom fresh and fragrant.

Ways to save water in the garden

For families living in average urban homes with gardens, **50%** or more of their water consumption takes place outdoors. Most of this water is used to keep lawns green, cars clean and pools topped up. But it is possible to reduce your household's outdoor water usage without having to live in a desert, drive a filthy car or give up your cooling summer splash.

Water wisely

Connecting the hose or irrigation system to a tap means using much more valuable drinking water for your garden than you should be. In fact, in some drier parts of the country people are not allowed to water their gardens by law. Rather install a rainwater collection tank to catch runoff water from your roof. You'd be surprised how quickly a 5 000-litre tank gets filled up with water that would otherwise have simply flowed down the drain. You could also collect grey water (see tips for kitchen and bathroom water savings) that would otherwise have gone to waste and use that to water plants or lawns. Using grey water means you are not using drinkable water to feed plants. Also, carrying buckets of water is a fantastic workout!



Go grey

Grey water is water that has been used before but is still of sufficient quality to be reused for non-drinking purposes. It usually includes water collected from basins, showers and washing machines. By redirecting the outlet pipes of these units, you can collect grey water and use it to water your lawn, garden and trees. If you use grey water quickly after collection, it's fine to simply collect it in containers or small water tanks. Or you could get a high-tech system, complete with filters and pumps, installed by a professional. Systems like these usually pay for themselves within a few years thanks to lower household water costs.

If you're using grey water for your garden, use biodegradable, non-toxic soaps and detergents. Generally, it is not advisable to use water from you kitchen sink or dishwater as grey water because the fats and food scraps in this water can quickly become toxic.

Quick gardening tips

- Plant indigenous, drought-resistant plants such as succulents, which need minimal watering.
- Water plants and lawns before sunrise or after sunset to reduce evaporation.
- Reduce or, even better, remove all the lawn you have in the garden. Less lawn equals less watering.
- Put lots of compost in your flower and vegetable beds. It absorbs and retains water.
- Let the lawn you have go dormant during drier months. More often than not brown lawn is not dead – it is just in survival mode. It will come back stronger when the rain arrives.

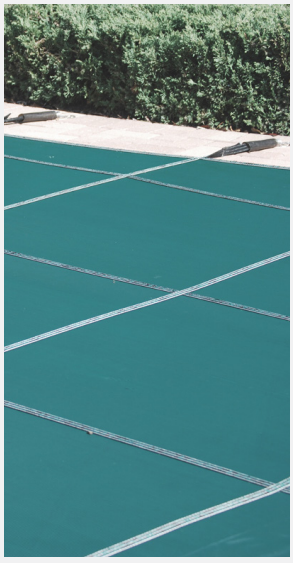
- Mulch. Mulch. Mulch. Cover planting beds with bark chips, straw or any other material that will help to keep moisture in.
- Don't overfertilise. Too much fertiliser can in fact cause plants to use more water.
- Remove invasive, alien, water-sapping plants and trees from your garden. These include pine, eucalyptus, wattle, and jacaranda trees.

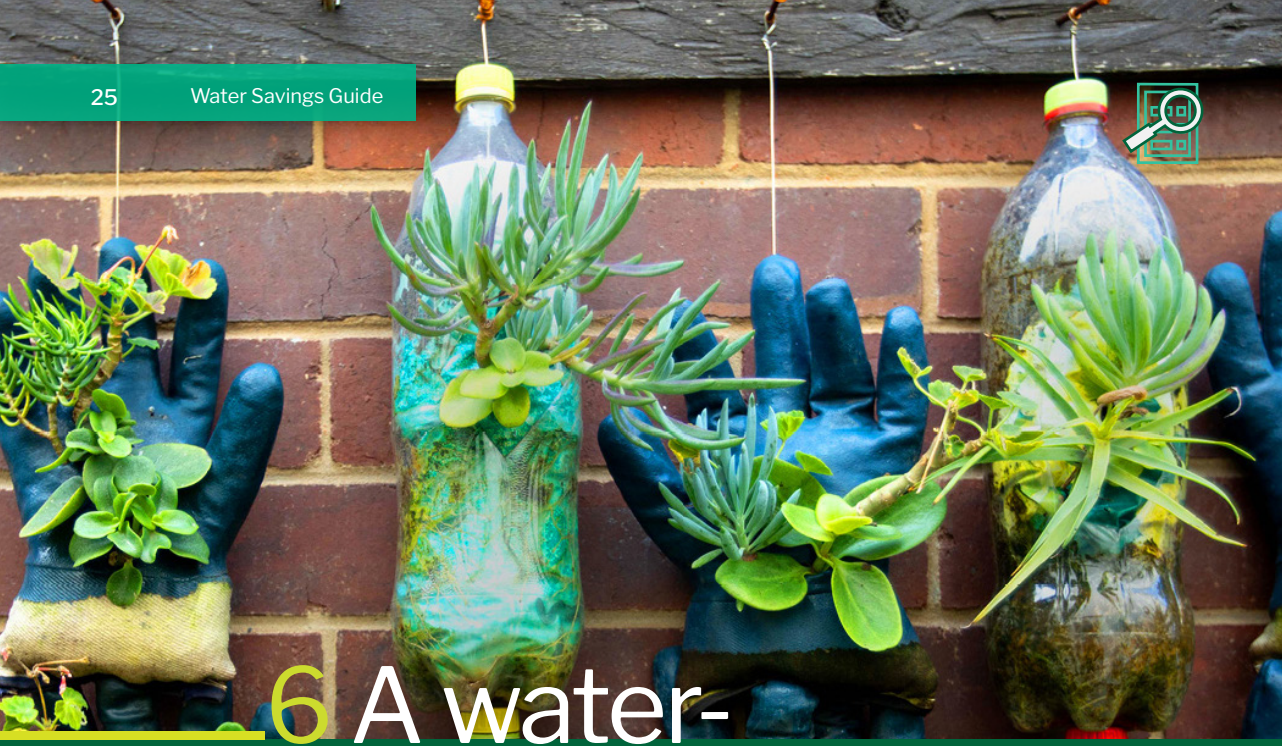
Hose no's

Try to make it a personal policy to use your garden hose as little as possible. Don't use it to wash your car. Never use tap water to spray down paving or clean out gutters. And if you absolutely must wash the car, there are some fantastic waterless cleaning products available that don't require you to use valuable drinking water. Alternatively, take it in to a waterless car wash. Not only will you be saving precious water, but you'll be supporting a small business that's creating jobs.

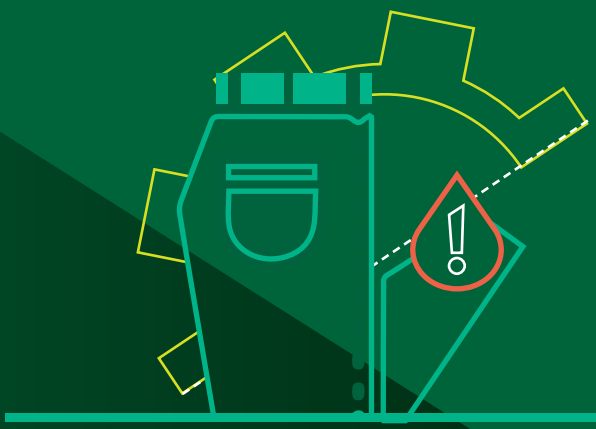
Cover up

Because pools are exposed to the sun and wind, the rate of evaporation from a pool can be astronomical. A pool cover of good quality will reduce evaporation close to zero when the pool isn't in use. Many pool covers are also designed to soak up sunrays and transfer the heat to the water, making the pool temperature warmer and helping reduce the costs of heating the water in other ways. If you do need to top up the water levels every now and then, use captured rainwater as much as possible. Save water and money by letting the rain fill your pool during storms.





6 A water-efficient life



It takes about 8 000 litres of water
to produce a pair of jeans.

SAVE WATER EVERY DAY IN EVERY WAY

Think before you eat, and save water

Few people realise just how much water goes into producing the food they eat.

Being a more conscious consumer is a great way to reduce your consumption of water-thirsty products. And it's also often a healthier way to eat!

TO PRODUCE THIS	TAKES ABOUT THIS MUCH WATER
An apple	125 ℓ
A beer (500 mℓ)	50 ℓ
A glass of wine (120 mℓ)	110 ℓ
A portion of beef (1 kg)	15400 ℓ
Pizza (margherita)	1259 ℓ
Chocolate (100 g)	1700 ℓ
Bread (1 kg)	1608 ℓ

A burst pipe can waste thousands of litres of water in no time

Make sure that everyone in your household knows where the water shutoff valve or tap is located.

Police those leaks

While a dripping tap or leaky toilet cistern may seem insignificant, the amount of water lost due to leaks around the house is potentially huge. And when you add up the losses of every house in the country, South Africa is losing massive amounts of perfectly good water, which could easily be prevented by a little vigilance and basic maintenance. In this way, you can help South Africa save money too.

SUPERSAVER TIP:

An easy way to check if there are leaks in your home is to turn off all appliances, close all taps, and then check your water meter. If it's still moving, you have a leak somewhere.

Refresh before you wash

Unless you've been working out, you can usually wear your clothes more than once before you drop them in the laundry basket. Hanging your shirts, pants and dresses in an airy location goes a long way towards freshening them up for another wear. If you're worried about minor odours, put the items in a packet with a few scoops of baking soda. Shake it all up, dust off and wear them again with confidence. Hanging your bed linen on a washing line outside once a week will also keep it fresh without having to put it through the entire washing and drying process.

> Every action counts. Using water more efficiently is a win-win for us and the planet.

Save 'cistern-matically'

SUPERSAVER TIP:

Can't figure out if your cistern is leaking into the toilet bowl? Add a few drops of food colouring to the water in the cistern and don't use or flush the toilet for 24 hours. If the water in the bowl has changed colour, you need to replace the washer in the flush mechanism.

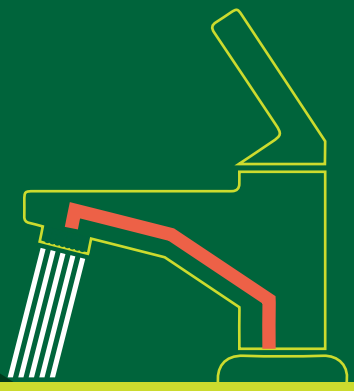
Think secondhand

It's not only food production that uses much water. Water is a key component in the manufacturing process of just about everything we wear and use daily. For example, making a new cotton T-shirt uses about 2 700 litres of water. One of the best ways to reduce your water footprint is to buy secondhand items rather than brand-new ones.

Go to **waterfootprint.org** to find out the water footprint of common products and take being a conscious consumer to the next level.

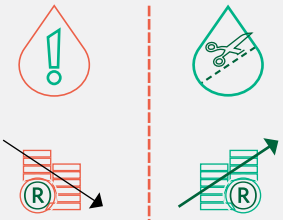
When it comes to reducing your water footprint, your daily decisions might seem small but over time can have a great impact – on your lifestyle, your pocket and our planet.

7 Saving **money**



Consider buying a water filter instead of buying bottled water, as it takes three litres of water to produce a one-litre plastic bottle of water. **You'll save money in the long term and have a lower environmental impact on the planet.**

Water savings and saving money go hand in hand



SUPERSAVER TIP
In the bathroom

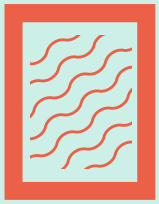
Choose a short shower over a bath if possible. Save more money by using less hot water.

A low-filled bath

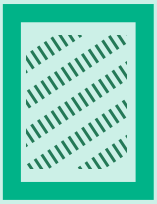
A two-minute shower

SUPERSAVER TIP
In the garden

Ensure your pool is covered to reduce water loss from evaporation, as the average household swimming pool loses over 2 000 litres of water a month in the summer if it's not covered.[4]



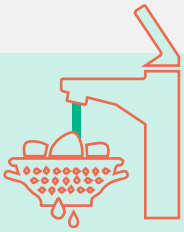
Uncovered pool



Covered pool

SUPERSAVER TIP
In the kitchen

Let food thaw naturally instead of using running water to defrost it.



Splurging out on food prep

Saving on food prep

[4] Assumes pool size of 3 m X 4 m. Available at http://www.waterwise.co.za.

8 Leading the way

Nationally, roughly 1,44 billion litres of water is lost to invasive alien plants every year. That amount of water could sustain 3,38 million households of **four for one year or feed 120 000 hectares of cropland to increase food production.**

Nedbank's commitment to good water stewardship

As a responsible corporate citizen, Nedbank takes its responsibility to set an example of good water stewardship very seriously. Our commitment focuses not only on using less water (although it is a significant part of it), but also on **supporting projects and organisations working to ensure** that all South Africans have **access to the clean water** they need.

Successful water stewardship efforts are always achieved through partnerships. As such, we work with all our stakeholders – from staff, clients and communities to business partners, suppliers and government – to maximise the positive impact we have on South Africa's water future. Here are just a few of the ways we've been delivering on our commitment in recent years:

FUNDING SOLUTIONS TO ALLEVIATE WATER SHORTAGES

We work closely with public and private sector parties on both the water demand and supply sides, where we develop innovative funding solutions to help alleviate water shortages.

DROUGHT RELIEF

While Cape Town has weathered its 'Day Zero' water crisis for now, there are still many parts of the country that are suffering under severe drought conditions.
We work closely with our clients in these regions, providing them with financial support and competitive funding solutions designed to help them overcome their immediate water challenges and build their long-term water resilience.

MINIMISING OUR OWN WATER FOOTPRINT

In addition to supporting and partnering with other organisations and stakeholders to help save our nation's water resources, Nedbank actively works to minimise our negative water impact within our own operations. We have clearly defined water reduction targets, which we consistently meet thanks to the water-saving efforts of our staff. We also invest significantly in the monitoring and maintenance of our water infrastructure.

ENABLING STAFF TO MINIMISE THEIR OWN WATER FOOTPRINTS

We consistently enable our staff to play a proactive role in managing their water usage. By example, during the water crisis, we gave every staffmember a 10-litre shower bucket, collectively enabling Nedbank staff to save a possible 300 000 litres of water daily.

± 30 000 NEDBANK STAFF X

Partnering with WWF-SA

Nedbank partnered with WWF-SA on its Water Balance Programme for eight years and provided R12 million in funding. This long-term project focuses on clearing alien invasive vegetation in and around vital water catchment areas.

In 2019 Nedbank took its water partnership with WWF-SA to the next level by entering into a five-year, R25 million water source area conservation partnership. The focus of this programme is on the protection and development of effective water ecosystems that balance the need to protect South Africa's essential water source areas, while at the same time supporting communities that rely on these areas for their livelihoods.

The new partnership prioritises support of water security, reducing land degradation and **improving local economic opportunities for rural communities** in the Eastern Cape, which is home to the second-largest water source area in South Africa.

WWF-SA'S COMMITMENT TO WATER CONSERVATION

Flamingoes on Kleindam Farm, the only Renosterveld wetland located by WWF-SA so far.

For **more than two decades** WWF-SA has been working to address South Africa's water challenges.

The organisation is involved in water awareness, protection and conservation at all levels of society. It drives water stewardship initiatives within communities, businesses, agriculture and government; helps to identify water risks; and strives to ensure that South Africa has healthy and sustainable water-supplying landscapes. The unique WWF-SA Journey of Water experience also helps to create an understanding of the complexities of the water ecosystem and creates awareness of the need for all South Africans to get involved in safeguarding this life-giving resource.

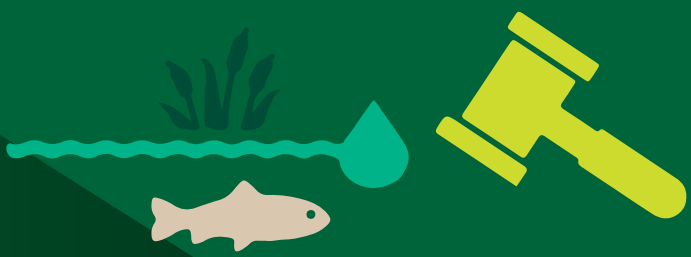
For more information about the work that WWF-SA is doing around water in South Africa, please **click here**. You can also register to receive the WWF newsletter, shop for WWF-branded items or donate in support of the fantastic work this vital conservation organisation is doing.

Nedbank Green Affinity and the WWF Nedbank Green Trust

Greenbacks is Nedbank's new money management programme. As we work to assist you in managing your money to reach your best financial future, we encourage you to do your part for a better future for South Africa. When you join Greenbacks, you select one of the four Nedbank Affinities (Green, Children's, Sport and Arts) to support. This means that the better you get at making money choices with your Nedbank products, the more Nedbank will contribute to your chosen affinity – at no cost to you. With contributions to the Green Affinity, which fund the WWF Nedbank Green Trust, you will be supporting a vast range of social and environmental projects across the country.

Over the past five years more than **R93 million has been invested in 41 water and conservation-type projects** through the trust. With 11 of those projects and an investment of nearly R23 million particularly focused on water (fresh and marine).

9 References and more reading



South Africa was **one of the first** countries to enact a law that allocates water specifically for use by the environment. This water is called the Ecological Reserve.

Find out more

Want even **more tips and guidelines** on how to save water around your home?

Be sure to have a look at these websites:

https://africageographic.com/blog/7-tips-for-creating-a-water-wise-garden/

http://www.waterwise.co.za

https://www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week

https://waterfootprint.org/en/resources/interactive-tools/product-gallery/

https://www.swsp.co.za/blog/how-to-save-water-in-south-africa-the-ultimate-guide/

Here is a list of references

For the sake of readability, we have not cluttered this guide with tons of references in the text. However, all water usage information and data referenced in the booklet can be found in the documents and on the websites listed below.

These are all excellent sources of information and advice in their own right, and will be of further help to you on your water-saving journey.

https://www.wwf.org.za/our_work/water/

https://www.westerncape.gov.za/general-publication/simple-ways-save-water-your-home?toc_page=1

https://africageographic.com/blog/7-tips-for-creating-a-water-wise-garden/

http://www.waterwise.co.za/site/water/Water_use-in_the_home/Open_the_door_to_a_Water_Wise_house/

https://aws.wwfsa.org.za/aws/home/%20%20-www.allianceforwaterstewardship.org

https://www.helenmoffett.com/green-hat/2018/1/27/1001-water-saving-ways-round-up-1

http://www.isustainableearth.com/water-conservation/the-shocking-facts-about-fresh-watr

http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/freshwater/embedded-water/

https://www.treehugger.com/culture/8-facts-you-didnt-know-about-water.html

http://discovermagazine.com/2010/may/20-things-you-didnt-know-about-water

http://www.nbcnews.com/id/6124627/ns/technology_and_science-science/t/things-you-didnt-know-about-water/

https://www.watercalculator.org/

http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/freshwater/embedded-water/

https://www.seametrics.com/blog/water-facts/

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/freshwater/water-conservation-tips/

https://www.thinkh2onow.com/water_conservation_facts.php

https://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2013/jan/10/how-much-water-food-production-waste

For more information about Nedbank's approach to sustainability please visit nedbank.co.za

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