

## Let's begin the year with a culture of conserving water

FELLOW South Africans, as we begin this fresh new year, let us keep in mind that South Africa is a water-scarce country, and we need to save water as much as we can.

We've had sporadic rainfalls in most parts of the country which has boosted our water reservoirs, but let us continue with saving water in our households.

Fix leaks around the house – even a slow drip can waste 30 litres a day – and the water bill will go up.

In the garden, use a watering can. Water during the cool parts of the day; either early morning or early evening. And water the soil; not the leaves, so the water goes straight to the roots. Grey water can also be used for gardens.

For houseplants, when you boil an egg, save the cooled water for your houseplants as they will benefit from the nutrients released from the shell.

Let us make it a habit to turn off the tap between washing your face, brushing your teeth, or shaving. Tak-

ing a five-minute shower is better than taking a bath. In the kitchen, do not fill the kettle to the brim. Pour just enough water for your needs. When washing dishes by hand, use minimal soap to limit rinsing the dishes. Try by all means to do less laundry: run full loads only instead of multiple small loads.

Save and respect water, and teach the young ones that as well.

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