

LET US ALL REDUCE OUR WATER CONSUMPTION

FIND AND FIX LEAKS

Leaks can waste a lot of water, especially if they are undetected or underground and left for a long time. Leaks on your property are your responsibility. So here is a guide to finding and fixing them quickly, to save water and save you money.

HOW TO CHECK FOR LEAKS ON YOUR PROPERTY



CUT ALL WATER USE

Close all taps on the property and don't flush toilets.



CHECK AND RECORD

Check and record your meter reading.



WAIT 15 MINUTES AND TAKE ANOTHER READING

Make sure that nobody has opened a tap or flushed since you first noted the meter reading.



IF THERE IS A DIFFERENCE, YOU HAVE A LEAK TO FIX

If the number on the meter has increased, it means you have a leak and you need to take action as per the City's By-law.



CALL A PLUMBER TO HELP FIX THE LEAK

Unless it's a simple DIY job.

3 SIMPLE TESTS FOR A TOILET LEAK

One leaking toilet wastes between 2 600 and 13 000 litres per month, depending on the flow rate of the leak. A leaking tap wastes between 400 and 2 600 litres per month.



Listen for water trickling into the toilet bowl.



Press a piece of toilet paper against the inside back surface of the bowl. If it gets wet, you probably have a leak.



Put 15 drops of food colouring into the toilet cistern. If after 15 minutes the water in the toilet bowl has changed colour, there is a leak.

If you can't afford to call a plumber to fix a serious toilet problem, use the little stopcock/angle valve tap at the base of the toilet to keep it turned off between flushes.

REPORT BUST PIPES OR LEAKS IN STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES TO YOUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

TOP WAYS TO SAVE WATER



WATER RE-USE

Use water from baths, washing machines and other safe sources to flush the toilets.



MONITOR YOUR METER

Leaks around the home can waste hundreds of litres per day. If your meter is running while all taps are closed, then there's a leak.



KEEP SHOWERS SHORT

Spend a maximum 2 minutes per shower. Turn off the water while you soap/lather your body.



BATH WITH LESS WATER

Take a shallow bath or switch to having a quick 90 seconds shower by opening and closing the tap between wetting, soaping and rinsing.



DON'T LEAVE TAPS RUNNING

Turn off tap when, brushing teeth, washing hair, shaving, or washing dishes.



FULL LOADS ONLY

Only do the washing when you have enough items for a full load, for the washing machine.



REPORT AND FIX LEAKS

Report leaks outside your yard or on the streets to your local municipality. Fix all leaks inside your yard.



ENCOURAGE WATER SAVING

Encourage friends and family to contribute their own water saving ideas.



REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION

Fit low-flow showerheads and aerators to all taps in the home.



SAVING WATER SHOULDN'T MAKE YOU SICK

It's still important to wash your hands after using the toilet. Turn the tap off while you soap up.

NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

50 litres: The maximum amount of water each person in Cape Town should be using from 1 February 2018.

41%: The small amount of Capetonians who are using less than the current recommended maximum of 87 litres per day.

What you can do with 50 litres per day



2 LITRES OF DRINKING WATER



2 LITRES FOR COOKING



2 LITRES FOR DAILY HYGIENE



15 LITRES FOR A 90 SEC SHOWER



15 LITRES FOR DISHES & LAUNDRY



14 LITRES FOR TWO FLUSHES

WATER IS LIFE - SANITATION IS DIGNITY

TOLL FREE: 0800 200 200 www.dws.gov.za



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



miss earth
SOUTH AFRICA

