

# Steps To Reduce Water Consumption

- **Put mulch around plants in the garden** this helps the plants retain moisture and reduces evaporation.
- **Choose plants that suit climate and soil conditions to reduce watering**, New Zealand natives are best adapted to our conditions.
- **Use a broom**, not a hose, to clean driveways and walkways.



Look for water efficiency labels when buying new products

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by the  
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## A GUIDE to



## Water Reduction

Ruapehu  
District Council

## Steps To Reduce Water Consumption

### Don't Waste A Drop

Water is a precious resource, it is fundamental to our way of life and we need to take steps now to ensure that we are always going to have a good supply of fresh water.

- **Consider installing low flow shower heads,** these use around 5-7 litres per minute compared to regular shower heads which use around 12 litres per minute.
- **Install aerators on all taps,** a typical tap uses around 15-18 litres per minute, an aerator can reduce that amount by 50% without affecting water pressure.
- **Install a dual flush toilet,** look for the most efficient model such as a 4.5 litre/3 litre flush.
- **Save Water,** for old toilet systems put a brick in the toilets cistern and reduce its water capacity.



Rain water collection Tank

## Steps To Reduce Water Consumption

- **Compost your food scraps,** use the compost as mulch this is good for saving water in the garden and is an alternative to using an InSinkErator.
- **When buying new appliances consider water efficient models,** for example a front loading washing machine uses around 50% less water than a top loader.



Water your yard and outdoor plants early or late in the day to reduce evaporation.

Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose.



Use plants that require less water.



Mulch around plants to hold water in the soil.

Get an Energy Star labeled washing machine.



Wash only full loads.

Use a low flow showerhead.



Take shorter showers — five minutes or less is best.

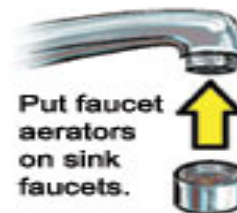
Turn off the water while soaping hands and brushing teeth.



Turn off sink faucet while scrubbing dishes and pots.



Install new toilets that use less than 1.6 gallons per flush.



Put faucet aerators on sink faucets.

Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and walkways.

