



Information sheet

SAVING WATER IN HOTELS AND MOTELS

On average Hotels and Motels can use over 250 litres of water per guest per day. With most guests now aware of the importance of water conservation, here are some handy tips to help you save water and energy at your property.

Showerheads



One of the biggest areas of water use in Hotels and Motels are showers > A standard (non water efficient) showerhead uses 12 - 22 litres of water per minute. A water saving showerhead (★★★ WELS rated) uses 9 litres per minute or less.

A water efficient showerhead can save more than 26 litres of water for an average 7 minute shower, which is more than 9,000 litres of water per person per year.

Save energy and bills

Water efficient showerheads reduce the amount of hot water used. Using water efficient showerheads can generate great savings on your energy bill and help the environment at the same time.

Costs

Water efficient showerheads can be purchased from anywhere between \$20 and \$400.

Taps



Install flow controllers in hand basin taps. They are inexpensive and easy to install by any handy person or your local plumber.

Toilets



A leaking toilet wastes up to 16,000 litres of water per year > To check if your toilets have leaks, put a little food dye in the cistern. Wait 15 minutes (don't flush) and check the water in the bowl. If the colour appears in the bowl the cistern needs immediate repair.

Consider replacing older toilets with modern 6/3L or 4.5/3L dual flush toilets > These can save thousands of litres of water every year.

If you cannot afford new toilets > Install cistern weights that let you control how much water is being flushed.

Look at installing cistern displacement bags > These can save up to 1.8 litres of water per full flush.

Rainwater tanks



Install a rainwater tank system to give you greater flexibility with your water usage in dry times. When installing a tank, consider using it for:

- Garden watering,
- Toilet flushing,
- Washing laundry.

Remember that if you are using your tank for all three purposes and you don't receive regular rainfall you will need a large tank, generally 10,000 litres or more.

Gardens



Most Hotel and Motel gardens are low maintenance and this is quite consistent with best practice garden water conservation. The key things to look out for are minimising lawn spaces, heavily mulched garden beds and talking to your local nursery about attractive drought tolerant plants suitable for local conditions. If you have plants that need more water or you are in a particularly dry area consider sub-surface irrigation which is amazingly efficient.

Many parts of Australia now have water restrictions that do not allow garden watering. There are some excellent options in for greywater irrigation systems, or rainwater tanks attached to sub-surface irrigation.

In really dry areas why not get guests involved in your efforts to save water and provide them with a bucket to capture shower water for your gardens?

Swimming pools

Make the swimming pool at your Hotel or Motel water neutral by following three easy steps:



1. Install a rainwater tank
2. Use a pool cover to cut evaporation by up to 95%
3. Install a backwash minimisation system (eg, a cartridge filter, pre-filter device or a backwash recycle system).

Contact your Swimming Pool And Spa Association (SPASA) office for further information.

To save even more water

Dripping taps can waste about 20,000 litres of water per year. This can often be fixed by just changing the washer. If you require assistance contact your local plumber.



Shower timers can help remind your guests to have a shorter shower. Permanently fixed digital shower timers are available on the market.

Messages

Keeping guests informed of your local water situation is a great first step to help conserve water at your property. You may even want to display water conservation signage in your reception area.



Placing water conservation information and stickers in guest rooms will also help to remind your patrons to be conscious about how they are using water. Let your guests know what water saving actions you would like them to take while staying with you.

Contact your water provider for further assistance.

More Information

For hospitality case studies and water efficient products please visit www.savewater.com.au

Further information

For further information visit www.hunterwater.com.au or phone 1300 657 657.