

VALIDATING YOUR RESULTS

Cross check, by using your last four (quarterly) water bills.

How close it is to your calculated total?

If your figures are way out, re-check the things you are measuring. Missed something? If you can't find a reason for the discrepancy you may have a leaking pipe somewhere.

Greywater

Grey water has already been used once to clean clothes or to clean you. It can still be used for other things: watering the garden or flushing toilets.

How much rainwater can you harvest?

In the suburban backyard, you will be able to capture and store the water coming off your roof.

How much rain is expected to fall every year in your area? Check with the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website.

What is your catchment area?

Work out the area of every roof surface that you have which is capable of shedding water - your house, garage, covered decks, sheds, greenhouses.

Calculate the Potential Rain Water Harvest and What you need to store it.

Total possible amount of rainwater you can harvest in a year?

Multiply the catchment area x the yearly rainfall figure (from the BOM) = Litres you harvest.

WATER SAVING TIPS FROM SYDNEY WATER

- Take shorter showers.
- Turn the tap on only as hard as you need.
- Use the half flush button on your toilet instead of the full flush.
- Put a plug in the sink rather than leave the water running.
- Thaw frozen foods in the fridge rather than placing them under running water.
- Wait for a full load before turning on the dishwasher or washing machine.
- Consider installing water efficient appliances at home
- Use watering cans or trigger nozzles on hoses
- Use a broom or rake rather than a hose to clean driveways and pathways
- Remove weeds from the garden that take water from the plants you want
- Consider putting in water tanks for garden and lawn purposes
- Applying 7–10 centimetres of mulch around plants can save up to 70%
- Wash your car on the lawn



FAIRFIELD CITY COUNCIL WATER AUDITS IN THE FAMILY HOME

WHY CONDUCT AN AUDIT:

- Save money by reducing your water bill
- Estimates the average water usage for individual appliances and functions in the house
- Identify ways to reduce water consumption



WATER AUDIT

| | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | Day 7 | Average |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| Weekday/Date | | | | | | | | |
| Washing up (10 Litres/wash) | | | | | | | | |
| Shower (4 min average, 6 litres/minute) | | | | | | | | |
| Toilet (Main) (8 litres/flush) | | | | | | | | |
| Toilet (Ensuite) (5 litres/flush) | | | | | | | | |
| Washing Machine (189 Litres/load) | | | | | | | | |
| Watering garden (15 Litres/min) | | | | | | | | |
| Cooking/Drinking (7 litres/day) | | | | | | | | |
| Teeth cleaning (1 litre/clean) | | | | | | | | |
| Shaving (3 Litres/shave) | | | | | | | | |
| Hand washing (1 litre/wash) | | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | | | |
| Totals | | | | | | | | |

TOTALS

| Source | Daily Volume (litres) | Weekly Volume (Litres) | Yearly volume (Litres) |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shower | | | |
| Washing Machine | | | |
| Bath | | | |
| Laundry tub | | | |
| Total | | | |

VOLUME OF RAINWATER AVAILABLE FOR TANKS

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Annual rainfall | |
| Longest dry period | |
| Roof Catchment (house ___) & (carport ___) & (other ___) | |
| Total potential roof catchment per year less 15% contingency for runoff/loss (roof catchment X annual average rainfall X 0.85) | |
| Daily water use | |
| Total use per year | |
| Water needed for (the longest dry period) | |
| Water storage required for water security + 20% contingency | |