



## Water <sup>1</sup>

Australia needs to use water more wisely. The Federal [Water for the Future](#) website explains that the action we take now means future generations will be better prepared for a changing climate and droughts. Scientific advice, including from the CSIRO, shows our rivers are degraded. By investing in water saving irrigation systems, and alternative water supplies for our cities and towns, the Australian Government is helping to prepare for a future with less water.

The [Global reporting Initiative aspect](#) for WATER allows for the core indicator of;

- **Total water withdrawal by source.**

And additional aspects of ;

- Water sources significantly affected by withdrawal of water.
- Percentage and total volume of water recycled and reused

The Federal government offers some [grants and funding](#) for water use programs. Households can receive Australian Government rebates when they install rainwater tanks and greywater systems. National water efficiency standards mean that it is easier to buy water saving washing machines, showerheads and dishwashers. Water shortages and the longer-term security of water supply are serious concerns for Australia. The WELS Scheme labels a range of products for water efficiency, helping Australian households to save water and money.

Trends and statistics relating to water use can be found on the [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) website

A useful listing of water links for industry is on the [Australian government portal for land and resources](#).

The National Water Commission is an independent statutory body in the Environment and Water Resources portfolio. Its role is to drive the national water reform agenda. Established under the [National Water Commission Act 2004](#), the Commission provides advice to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) and the Australian Government on national water issues.

In October 2006 the federal Department of the Environment and Heritage published a report titled [Water Efficiency Guide: Office and Public Buildings](#). The report summarises findings of a study undertaken by Exergy Australia Pty Ltd on behalf of the Department and contains national water intensity benchmarks for office buildings and public buildings. It found that water consumption was higher than the best practice.

Most specific regulatory information is available from State and Local web sources.

By local area, your own local Council's water information can be searched at the [Australian](#)

---

<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>The ebb and flow of web information allows us to share and travel with it in a community-centered way. Feel free to agree or take issue with the contents of these papers. They are the Aptly "take" on information and thought developed over many years and rely heavily on work already done in the field and referenced throughout.

[Local Government Association](#) website.

Each Australian State has its own Water Department

[ACT](#)

[NSW](#)

[Northern Territory](#)

[Queensland](#)

[South Australia](#)

[Tasmania](#)

[Victoria](#)

[Western Australia](#)