

STAGE 3a WATER RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO MELBOURNE FROM 1 APRIL 2007



**GARDEN
MANUAL
WATERING**
6 AM ► 8 AM *



**GARDEN
AUTOMATIC
WATERING**
MIDNIGHT
TILL 2 AM *



**EFFICIENT
COMMERCIAL
CAR WASH
ONLY**



**—1 IN 4—
SPORTSGROUNDS
CAN BE
WATERED**



**INDUSTRY:
WATER
SAVING RULES
TO APPLY**



**SOLUTIONS:
RAINWATER &
GREYWATER
ANYTIME**

PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

Stage 3a water restrictions must be followed and water patrols are out in force across Melbourne. If you are issued with a warning notice and still breach the restrictions, you may have your water supply restricted and face fines.

To report a breach, call 13WATER (139 2837).

For a full set of Stage 3a water restrictions please visit our website at www.ourwater.vic.gov.au or contact your local water retailer.

RESIDENTIAL GARDENS

Watering Days*

Even numbered properties can water on Saturday and Tuesday.

Odd numbered properties can water on Sunday and Wednesday.

Watering is not permitted on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

Where there is no number, the property is considered an even numbered address.

Watering Times

Garden Manual Watering

Manual dripper systems, a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, watering cans and buckets can be used to water gardens as required on specified watering days between 6am – 8am. Households with at least one resident aged 70 years or over may water their gardens manually on specified watering days between 6am – 8am or 8am – 10am.

Garden Automatic Watering

Automatic dripper systems can be used to water gardens as required on specified watering days between midnight – 2am.

VEHICLE WASHING

An efficient commercial car wash that uses 70 litres of water or less per vehicle can be used.

A bucket filled from a tap can be used to clean windows, mirrors and lights; and spot-remove corrosive substances.

SPORTS GROUNDS

Generally, 1 in 4 sportsgrounds as nominated by council can be watered. Exempt playing surface may be watered: turf cricket wickets, golf tees and greens (not fairways), tennis courts, bowling greens, hockey pitches, running tracks, croquet greens.

INDUSTRY

These will be permanent watering saving rules to come into affect after 1 April 2007.

It will be mandatory for the top 1500 industrial, commercial and institutional water users to develop and implement water saving plans.

SOLUTIONS

Greywater, rainwater and recycled water can be used at anytime. For guidelines on safe use, visit www.epa.vic.gov.au. Restrictions do not apply to rainwater collected in a storage tank, provided it is not supplemented with drinking water supply.

POOLS AND SPAS

A new pool or spa of any size capacity cannot be filled with drinking water. However, a new or existing swimming pool or spa may be filled with an alternative water source such as groundwater.

An existing pool or spa of less than 2,000 litres may be filled by means of a watering can or bucket filled directly from a tap.

An existing pool or spa of greater than 2,000 litres must not be filled except in accordance with a water conservation plan (contact your local water business for more information).

An existing pool or spa must not be topped up except by means of a watering can or bucket, filled directly from a tap (not by means of a hose).

City West Water 131 691
South East Water 131 867
Yarra Valley Water 131 721

Our Water Our Future

A Victorian Government initiative

Victoria
The Place To Be

Great ideas to help you save water

HOW CAN I KEEP MY GARDEN ALIVE?

We all love our gardens and want to do everything possible to keep them alive. So what are the options?

USE A BUCKET

The simplest and cheapest greywater system available to everyone is a bucket or container.

- ➔ Place it in the shower and collect the "warm up" water or even leave it at your feet to collect the run off.
- ➔ Scoop out bath or basin water.
- ➔ If possible, catch water from your washing machines last rinse cycle.
- ➔ Place a container in the sink when washing fruit and vegetables.

GREYWATER DIVERSION

After a bucket, the next simplest thing is to connect a greywater diverter to your outdoor piping and collect the water into a large container.

PERMANENT GREYWATER SYSTEMS

Permanent greywater systems must be installed by a licensed plumber. These systems require approval from your local council.

Note: Greywater must be used within 24 hours of collection unless it has been treated. For further information contact the EPA (details below).

RAINWATER HARVESTING

When it comes to watering your garden, harvested rainwater is a great option. These days, there are lots of products to choose from in a variety of colours and materials.

For more information on sustaining your garden in dry times visit www.savewater.com.au



HOW CAN I KEEP MY CAR AND DRIVEWAY CLEAN?

We understand that many people take pride in their vehicles. Here are some solutions for washing cars under water restrictions.

- ➔ Consider using greywater or rainwater from a bucket to spot clean the car. A good option is to collect the "warm up" water when showering or running a bath.
- ➔ Water-free car washing products are starting to appear on the market and are a great alternative for keeping your car clean. For further information visit www.savewater.com.au.
- ➔ Use a broom to sweep the driveway or an air blower for fast results.

HOW DO I KEEP THE WINDOWS ON THE OUTSIDE OF MY HOUSE CLEAN?

It sounds simple, but the tried and tested window spray is one of the most effective ways to keep outside windows clean.

If you don't think that will do the trick and you need to use water, opt for greywater or rainwater from a bucket.

HOW CAN I KEEP MY POOL FULL?

- ➔ Maintain chemical levels and regularly test the water.
- ➔ Place a cover over your pool to minimise water evaporation.
- ➔ Minimise splash.
- ➔ Top up with rainwater.

I'M CONCERNED ABOUT USING ALTERNATE WATER SAFELY AND I'M NOT SURE WHAT PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE. WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

There's lots of information out there. It's just a matter of knowing who to turn to. You can contact the following organisations for information and product advice.

WATER SAVING PRODUCTS

Savewater! Alliance
www.savewater.com.au

GREYWATER GUIDELINES

Environmental Protection Authority
Ph: 9695 2722
www.epa.vic.gov.au/water

GREYWATER COLLECTION AND USE

Alternative Technology Association
www.ata.org.au

SAFE USE OF DETERGENTS

Lanfax Laboratories
www.lanfaxlabs.com.au

GENERAL ADVICE, REGULATION AND REBATES

Our Water Our Future
Ph: 136 186
www.ourwater.vic.gov.au

OTHER GREAT WAYS TO SAVE WATER

- ➔ Install a three-star rated water efficient showerhead.
- ➔ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ➔ Install flow control valves to further reduce water use.
- ➔ When purchasing a new washing machine choose one with a four-star rating or above.
- ➔ Only wash when you have a full load.
- ➔ Fix any dripping taps or leaking toilet cisterns.
- ➔ When waiting for running water to warm up in the kitchen or bathroom collect it and put it in the fridge or use it to water the garden.