

WORKING TOWARDS SAFE & RESPONSIBLE ON-SITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT ON-SITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION SERIES

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

This factsheet provides information about how you may be able to conserve water around your home to reduce the amount of wastewater flows into your OSMS. Tips include how you can save water from your shower, toilet, kitchen, laundry and general cleaning.

WATER SAVING TIPS IN THE SHOWER

- ▶ Have shorter showers. By having a shower in 5 minutes or less, you may save up to 40 litres of water each time you shower.
- ▶ Ensure you have a water-efficient shower head. Older (non-water efficient) shower heads use 20-30 litres of water per minute compared to approximately 9.5L per minute for water efficient shower heads.

WATER SAVING TIPS FOR THE TOILET

- ▶ Try to reduce the number of times you flush a toilet.
- ▶ Ensure you have a Dual-flush system.
- ▶ Don't flush any unnecessary items (tissues etc.) down the toilet.

WATER SAVING TIPS FOR THE LAUNDRY & HOUSEHOLD CLEANING

- ▶ Only run the washing machine when you have a full load or adjust the water level.
- ▶ Use any water saving features on your machine.
- ▶ Consider purchasing a Water-efficient washing machine when it comes time to update your washing machine.
- ▶ Use a bucket to hold water when cleaning instead of using running water.

WATER SAVING TIPS IN THE KITCHEN

- ▶ Scrape food waste off dishes, instead of rinsing them off with water.
- ▶ Don't wash or rinse your dishes with running water; use a tub or plug the sink.
- ▶ Only run your dishwasher when you have a full load, or adjust the water level to suit the size of your load.
- ▶ Consider purchasing a water-efficient dishwasher when it comes time to update your dishwasher.
- ▶ Don't rinse fruit and vegetables under running water, use a bowl of water.
- ▶ Keep a bottle of drinking water in the fridge instead of always running the tap for water.

BE SURE TO FIX ANY DRIPPING TAPS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO PREVENT UNNECESSARY WATER FROM ENTERING YOUR OSMS.

By saving water, you might also notice a saving in your energy costs as it takes energy to heat, treat and transfer water. Therefore the less water you use, the less energy you should use. When upgrading anything in your house to do with water (washing machine, dishwasher, toilet, shower head etc.) look at the 'star rating'. The more stars, the more water efficient the product.