



Did you know that a garden hose or sprinkler uses more water in one hour than most families will use in a day. Why not collect rainwater from the roof and downpipes of your house into a water butt and use it to water your garden plants instead?



Dublin City Council is selling water butts from various outlets throughout the City. Please phone **01 222 0600** or see www.dublincity.ie for further information.

Information on Water

1. The oceans hold 97% of the world's water. 2% is frozen in the polar ice caps. The remaining 1% not only provides all the water we use, but also includes all the water in the atmosphere and all the groundwater, lakes and rivers. We depend on the Water Cycle to recycle this 1% to meet all our needs.
2. Most water in the Greater Dublin Region is supplied by rivers. This water has to be treated in a Water Treatment Plant before it is safe to drink. It is then distributed through thousands of kilometres of pipes and service reservoirs before it gets to your home.
3. As our country grows, so does the demand on our water resources. If we're all to enjoy our precious reserves we must be more aware of water conservation.
4. On average each person in the Greater Dublin Region consumes 150 litres of water everyday! But it can be reduced. Read the Tap Tips to find out how.
5. For more information on water conservation in the home, at school and at work please see www.taptips.ie



Dublin City Council,
Environment & Engineering Department,
Water Services Division,
68-70 Marrowbone Lane, Dublin 8.
P. 01 222 0600
W. www.dublincity.ie / www.taptips.ie

This leaflet is also available in Irish.


Dublin City
Baile Átha Cliath



**Water
is Precious.
Let's Conserve
it at Home.**


Dublin City
Baile Átha Cliath

10 Tap Tips to Conserve Water in the House

1. Keep a jug of water in the fridge

Instead of letting the tap run when waiting for cold water, fill a jug of water and keep it in the fridge.

2. Use a basin to rinse/clean your fruit and vegetables

Instead of letting the tap run, use a basin to rinse/clean your fruit and vegetables. And you can use the leftover water to give your potted plants a drink.



3. Use a bucket of water not a hose

A hose uses more water in one hour than most households will use in a day. The car will be just as clean using a bucket of water. Always use a bucket and sponge to clean windows or wash your car instead of a hose.

4. Don't flush it all away

A third of all the water used in the house is flushed down the toilet. Some larger toilet cisterns can continue to work effectively with a smaller flush. Place a displacement device such as a hippo bag or a bottle filled with water into the cistern.



5. Be leak free

Check that your home is leak free. Check for running overflows and fix any dripping taps, cisterns or pipes. If you see a leak

in a public place, please phone Dublin City Council at 01 222 0600.

6. Don't leave the tap running while brushing your teeth

Turning the tap off when brushing your teeth can save over 7,000 litres of water per year.



7. Only run your washing machine and dishwasher when they're full

A washing machine on full cycle uses up to 65 litres of water; dishwashers 20 litres. Only use your appliances when they're full. You'll conserve water and save money by reducing your energy bill.



8. Know how to turn off your water supply

This could save thousands of litres of water and damage to your home in the event of a pipe burst.

9. In the shower

Reduce the time you spend in the shower. A regular shower will use about 35 litres of water in 5 mins. But beware a power shower will use over 125 litres in the same time.



10. Hot drinks

Fill the kettle with enough water for your needs. You will save energy too!

10 Tap Tips to Conserve Water in the Garden

1. Grass

Grass can survive for long periods without water and will quickly recover when the next rain showers arrive. Raising the lawnmower blades to a higher level will help stop the grass from scorching in warm weather. Leaving the clippings on the lawn will protect the roots and return nutrients to the soil.

2. Watering cans

If you must water your plants, do it in the early morning or evening when it's cooler. Forget the hose and always use a watering can fitted with a rose.



3. Compost

Recycle your green kitchen waste in a compost bin. Compost provides valuable nutrients and helps retain moisture in the soil.

4. Don't hose that driveway

Don't use the hose when cleaning paths, patios and driveways. Use a shovel and brush instead.



5. Mulches

Using mulch such as wood chips, bark or gravel will help prevent water evaporation and will suppress weed growth saving water and the need for weeding. These are especially valuable for shrubs, flowerbeds and new plantings.

6. Collect rainwater

Rainwater is excellent for your garden. Collect it in a water butt fed from your roof and downpipes. Always make sure to securely cover large containers for safety purposes.

7. Weed those beds

Regularly weed and hoe your garden, to ensure that watering helps your plants and not your weeds.

8. Spot those leaks

Regularly check your outdoor taps, pipes and plumbing fixtures for leaks.



9. Reuse water

Use a basin in your sink to collect and reuse water for your garden plants.

10. Trees, shrubs and plants

Plant flowers and shrubs that like warm and dry conditions. Your local garden centre can give you advice. Established trees and shrubs do not need to be watered.

