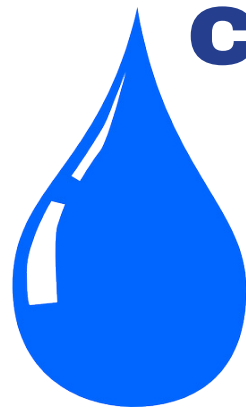


Every drop counts

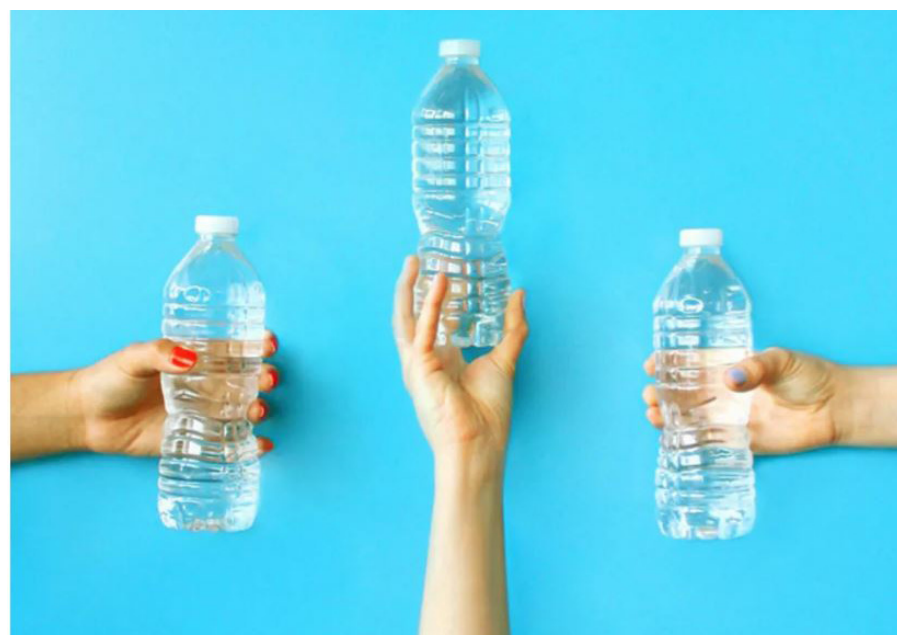


Target a max. daily usage of **82 litres per person, per day**

Sure, the targeted water consumption level is 1,000,000 litres per day for the whole island. But what does that mean for us individually?
 Average consumption per person, per day, is 82 litres.
 But the population on-island is higher during the holidays. The weather is getting hotter. Surface flow are decreasing.
 So 82 litres is the maximum we should think about using.
So what does 82 litres per day look like, and how can we decrease our usage?

Toilet

On average a person flushes the toilet four times per day, and each flush can take about 17 litres of water.
 This means 68 out of your 82 litres of water already 'down the toilet'...
 But apart from simply flushing less frequently, there's one tip you can easily use for your home toilet to help decrease consumption...



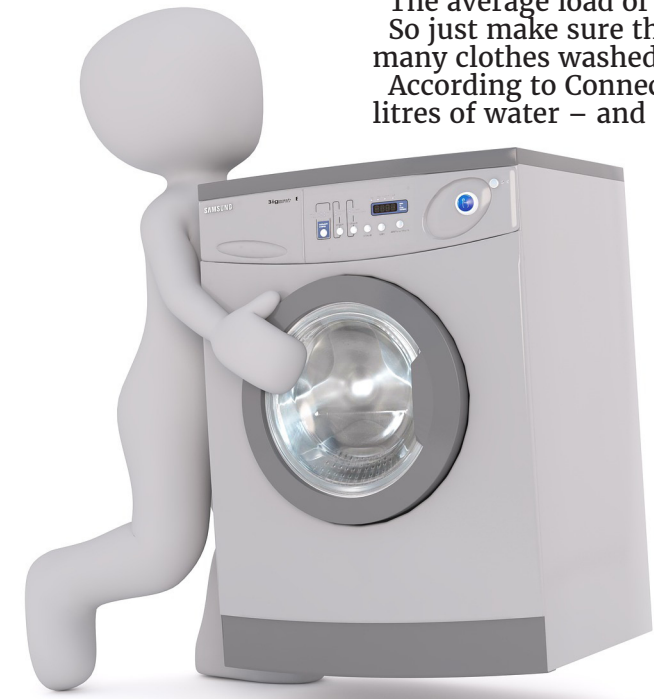
17 litres per flush



Tip: Find a narrow, empty plastic bottle that is as large as possible without interfering with the moving parts inside the toilet tank. Place a few heavy items inside it (rocks work great), then fill the rest with water (the added weight will help keep the bottle from shifting around when the toilet flushes). Take the lid off the toilet tank and place the bottle inside, in an out-of-the-way spot.
 However large the bottle, is the amount of water you should be saving every flush.
 An important note: Start with a smaller bottle and monitor progress. This is because for some modern toilets, the water in the toilet bowl acts as a seal against the sewage system it connects to. By lowering the water level of a toilet too far, there's a potential for losing that barrier and filling the bathroom with an extremely unpleasant odour!

Laundry

The average load of laundry will use about 100 litres of water.
 So just make sure the machine is full every time you use it, so that you get as many clothes washed as possible during each cycle.
 According to Connect St Helena, a half-full washing machine wastes about 20 litres of water – and increases your water bills!



100 litres per wash



Showering

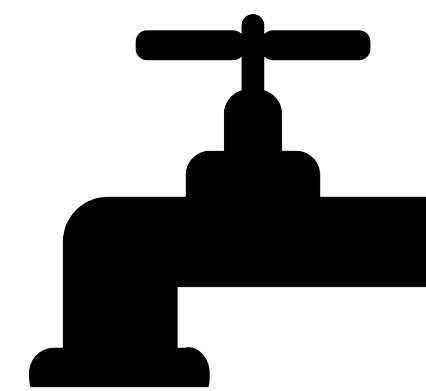
You're using about 10 litres of water per minute every time you shower.
 The simplest way to save water is to take as short a shower as possible. Try timing yourself in the shower – perhaps even put on your favourite song and ensure your shower last only until the end – and thinking about the amount of water you're using while you're showering.

10 litres per minute

Running tap

A running tap uses about 10 litres per minute.
 The simplest tips include turning the tap off while you shave or brush your teeth; re-using the water you use to boil your food, once it has cooled, in the garden; and rinsing your vegetables etc in a bowl rather than under a running tap, then using that water in the garden as well.
 But how about washing up liquid, which is one of the most common water uses each day?

Tip: One of Connect's Tip of the Week suggestions is "Recycle your washing up water to water your garden."
 This does work well, and soap can even serve as a pesticide.
 But remember that sodium, chlorine and boron are ingredients in some soaps that can cause damage to plants – so if you do use soapy water in the garden, choose cleaners that don't contain these things and ideally that are also low-phosphate. Potted plants will more intensely feel any negative effects due to the contained soil/root area.
 Additionally, things like oil and bacteria can exist in the dishwater – so pour the water directly onto the soil, avoiding any edible parts of the plants, and make sure children and animals don't consume the water.



Call Connect St Helena on 22255 or 22522 if you find a burst pipe or water leak