

# WATER RESTRICTIONS

## > Level 1 water restrictions are now in place across Broken Hill, Menindee, Sunset Strip and Silverton

### > Under Level 1 water restrictions:

- Watering of private gardens is permitted only with:
  - An automatic watering system between 7pm and 10am; or
  - A manual watering system between 6pm and 10am.
- Watering of private lawns is permitted only with:
  - An automatic watering system between 7pm and 10am; or
  - A manual watering system between 6pm and 10am.
- Private vehicles may be cleaned:
  - By a commercial car wash; or
  - By means of a bucket or watering can filled directly from a tap (and not by means of a hose); or
  - By means of a trigger hose, used only for the purpose of wetting, and rinsing a vehicle after it has been washed; or
  - To clean inside a tank of a tanker vehicle by means of a trigger hose, where such cleaning is necessary either to avoid contamination of the tanker's contents or to ensure public safety.
- Paved areas: may be cleaned by means of a trigger hose, only if necessary as a result of an accident, fire, to ensure the health and welfare of animals using the area, or other emergency, unless prior written approval is granted by Essential Water.
- Windows and building facades may be cleaned: by a bucket or watering can filled directly from a tap (and not by means of a hose) unless it is necessary to do so as a result of an accident, fire, or other emergency.
- Construction activities: water must not be used, except by means of a trigger hose.
- Swimming pool or spa which:
  - Has previously been filled – must not be emptied and refilled, it may only be topped up or maintained with water from a hand-held hose, bucket or watering can; or
  - Has not previously been filled – must not be filled without Essential Water's prior written authority.
- Private and public gardens: filling or topping up ponds and lakes:
  - An empty pond or lake must not be filled without Essential Water's prior written approval; or
  - The level of water in a pond or lake that has previously been filled with water may only be topped up or maintained with water from a hand-held hose, bucket or watering can.

**Please note: If water restriction levels change exemptions cease immediately and exemption applications must be submitted again.**

> To apply for an exemption or for more information call **13 23 91** or visit **[essentialwater.com.au](http://essentialwater.com.au)**

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# WATER SAVING TIPS

## > Here are some ways you can reduce the amount of water you use in your home and garden:

- Collect the water that runs through the tap or shower while you wait for the water to get hot and use it to water your plants
- Fix dripping taps and leaking toilets. Regularly check your dishwasher hoses and replace tap washers
- Install a water efficient shower head. You'll save as much as 10 litres of water per minute
- Operate dishwashers and washing machines when you have a full load. Use the suds saving function on your washing machine if you have it, as it will significantly reduce the amount of water you use
- Shorten your showers to 5 minutes or less
- Turn off the tap while you brush your teeth and use a glass of water to rinse. Put some water in the sink to rinse your razor – don't leave the tap running
- Aerate your soil and add water crystals to improve water retention
- Condition your soil and improve its water holding capacity by adding compost and manure to about a spade's depth. Veggie scraps are great to use in your compost bin and worm farm
- Consider reducing or replacing your lawn with pavers, groundcover, paths or native plantings
- Divert your laundry grey water to lawns and gardens
- Mulch gardens with pine bark, leaves, pebbles, lucerne or straw to reduce evaporation and keep down weeds
- Reduce your lawn's water needs by mulch-mowing – set the mower blades at about 5cm, and leave the clippings on the lawn
- Test the soil with your finger to check if plants need watering. If it's damp 2cm down, you won't need to water. For an accurate measure, use a water gauge in the garden bed.