

Thursday 21 January 2016

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## Water Wise – Summer Savers

In the midst of a dry summer, now is a great time to put simple measures in place to save water around the home, and many items are available free of charge from South Gippsland Water.

After the lowest spring rainfall on record since the late 1930s, and the combination of little inflow and an increase in demand for water over summer, storage levels continue to drop across most catchments. Stage 1 “Alert” Restrictions have been imposed on the Coalition Creek and Battery Creek Systems which provide water to Korumburra and Fish Creek respectively.

Philippe du Plessis, Managing Director, South Gippsland Water said, “with continued pressure on storage systems as a result of current weather conditions, customers are encouraged to use water wisely and make sure Permanent Water Saving Rules and, where appropriate, Stage One Restrictions are adhered to.”

To help with this, South Gippsland Water has a range of water saving devices such as trigger nozzles and soil wetting agents to reduce water use in the garden, and timers and water efficient showerheads to help save water around the home.

“Thirty percent of household water use occurs in the shower; simply installing a 3-star water efficient showerhead can reduce usage from 22 litres to nine litres per minute,” explained Mr du Plessis. “That soon adds up across every household, every day.”

South Gippsland Water staff will be outside the Leongatha Memorial Hall from 9.30-11.30am and the Korumburra Post Office from 12.30-2.30pm on both Tuesday 2 and 9 of February to supply free water saving devices to customers and answer household water efficiency questions.

There is also a great range of handy water conservation hints on the South Gippsland Water website [www.sgwater.com.au](http://www.sgwater.com.au).

**END**

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Permanent Water Saving Rules**
  - Water gardens, lawns and playing surfaces during the cool of the day (watering systems can be used between 6pm-10am on any day)
  - Use trigger nozzles on hoses and check that they are free of leaks
  - Sweep instead of hose to clean paved areas and hard surfaces
  - Fountains and water features can be used, provided they re-circulate water.
- **Stage 1 “ALERT” Water Restrictions**
  - In addition to Permanent Water Saving Rules that apply to all customers, Stage One Restrictions mean that customers in Fish Creek and Korumburra need to ensure that watering systems used to water gardens, lawns and sporting grounds are only in use between 6am-10am and 6pm-10pm on alternate days.
  - Alternate days means odd numbered houses can water on odd dates of the month and even numbered houses can water on even numbered dates. Hand-held hoses with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or watering can may be used at any time for watering.