

Be Wai-Wise



Did you know that wai is the Māori word for water? Water is one of our most precious resources because we all need it to live. And yet every year, millions of litres of water are wasted.

Let us know as soon as possible if you have leaky taps either inside the house or outside the house, this includes getting running toilet cisterns fixed too.

Here are some Wai-Wise top tips to save water →



Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth or shaving.



Take shorter showers – each minute you add to your shower time uses about 12 litres of water. For a household of three that extra minute costs you about \$90 a year in electricity.



Flush toilets less often.



In the laundry, don't turn on the washing machine until you have a full load – each load uses about 150 litres of water. Turning the wash to cold also saves power.



In the kitchen, keep a large bottle of water in the fridge. It will be lovely and cool and will avoid running unnecessary water from the tap while you wait for it to run cold.



Put the plug in the sink while you wash vegetables or rinse plates, you can use the left over water on your pot plants.



Use a bucket to wash and rinse the car – or leave it dusty.



Check your taps for drips or leaks and call us on 0800 801 601 if they require fixing – a dripping tap wastes a whole bath of water every week.



Sweep your paths rather than hosing them.



Go online and check out [smartwater.org.nz](https://www.smartwater.org.nz) for other tips, including smart water gardens and some great activities for the kids.