
Water conservation tips to help maintain supply

While it is always necessary to conserve water, it is especially important during the current spell of dry weather.

Along with the water scheme potentially having less water available at source, the increase in water demand during the hot spell puts extra pressure on the supply.

Members can do their part by conserving water and helping to avoid restrictions during critical periods.

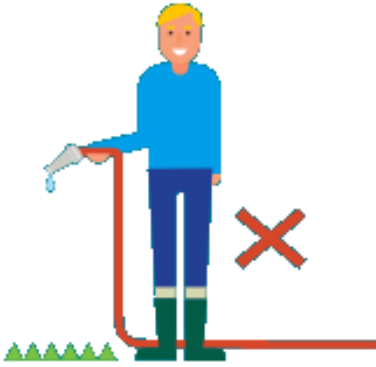
Water conservation tips:



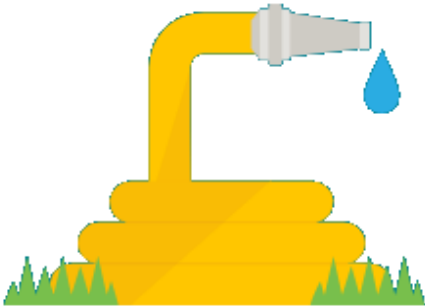
Check water meters - Carry out 'night flow' tests on water meters to identify possible leaks. If the night usage is unusually high or the counter is still running when everything is turned off, you may have a leak.



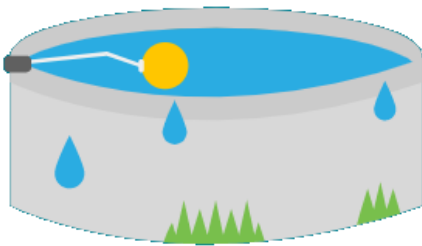
Running taps - Do not leave running taps unattended.



Avoid watering gardens or lawns and washing vehicles.



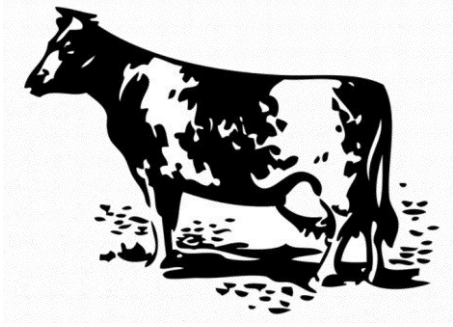
Fix dripping taps and hosepipes promptly - Replace washers and fix overflows to avoid water wastage



Check for overflowing troughs - Overflowing drinking troughs and incorrectly set or damaged ball-valves can waste significant amounts of water. Adjust the ball valves to lower the float or replace faulty parts.



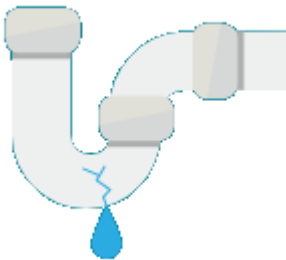
Turn off supply to out farms or sections of farm where there are no livestock currently grazing.



On dairy farms - Cooling water can be diverted to a tank and used for parlour washing.



Use dry-cleaning techniques - Use scrapers and brushes to remove solid waste from yards and pens to reduce hosing or a small amount of water to pre-soak waste before cleaning.



Check your pipework on the farm - Inspect the ground above your pipes for visible signs of leaks. Unusually damp ground or lusher than expected vegetation are signs of a leak.



Check closed businesses - If businesses or schools are closed, check that there is no unnecessary water loss from urinals etc.



Engage with and inform staff - Every member of staff plays a role in water usage. Make sure that they are educated and informed about how to conserve water.



Avoid recreational use - A single paddling pool can use as much water as 60 people in a day.



Shower rather than bath and take shorter showers - Showers use only half the amount of water required for a bath. However, an average shower uses 10 litres of water per minute, so taking a shorter shower will save even more water.



Turn off the tap - While brushing your teeth or shaving, turn off the tap and save up to six litres of water per minute.



Toilet cistern bag - This device — available from DIY stores — when filled with water and inserted in the water cistern of your toilet displaces water volume in the tank so that every time you flush the toilet, less water is used.



Fill the washing machine and dishwasher - Make sure your washing machine and dishwasher are always fully loaded before putting on a wash. This also saves money on energy bills.



Place a basin in the sink - Use a basin for washing dishes by hand or for collecting the water you use to rinse fruit and vegetables. That water can then be used for watering plants.



Keep a jug of water in the fridge - Do this instead of running the cold tap every time you need a drink, as it can waste 10 litres per day of water.