



WATER WISE RULES FROM 1 JULY

WATER WISE RULES APPLY FROM 1 JULY TO EVERYONE WHO USES WATER SOURCED FROM HUNTER WATER, INCLUDING RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENT

THE RULES ARE OUTDOOR ACTIONS TO SAVE ONE BILLION LITRES OF DRINKING WATER PER YEAR AND REDUCE BILLS



THREE KEY RULES

1. All hand held hoses must have a trigger nozzle attached.
2. Watering with a sprinkler, irrigation system or hose is permitted any day before 10am or after 4pm. This avoids the hottest part of the day when water wastage occurs due to evaporation.
3. No hosing of hard surfaces such as concrete, paths and driveways. Use a broom instead.

4PM TO 10AM



Water your lawn



Hose your garden



Irrigate



Use a sprinkler

These actions can be performed any day before 10am or after 4pm.
This avoids the heat of the day when water wastage occurs due to evaporation.

ANYTIME



Use a watering can



Wash a vehicle



Top up or fill a pool



Fill a bucket



Hoses must have a trigger nozzle



Sweep hard surfaces

These actions can be performed at any time.
Remember, hoses must always be used with a trigger nozzle, whatever the action or time of day.

EXEMPTIONS



Sports grounds



Firefighting



Rainwater or bore water

Hunter Water's supply can be used in the event of, or to prevent, an accident, health hazard, surface discolouration or environmental issue.

You can always use water to defend property from fire or test fire protection systems.

Watering systems can be used to establish new lawns and gardens for up to 14 days from installation.

Other exemptions apply. Visit hunterwater.com.au/waterwise to find out more.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is water use inside my house or business restricted?

Water Wise Rules apply to outdoor water usage. However, Hunter Water encourages its customers to practice water efficiency wherever possible.

Am I allowed to wash my house?

You can wash building structures, windows, walls, gutters and roofing using a hose with trigger nozzle or high pressure water cleaning equipment at any time of day.

Can I wash my car?

Yes, you may wash any vehicle using a hose fitted with trigger nozzle, a bucket or pressure cleaner at any time.

If I have a water feature or fountain in my garden can I still run it?

Yes, provided it recirculates the water.

If I have a rainwater tank or use irrigation bores, do Water Wise Rules still apply?

Water Wise Rules do not apply to rainwater used from tanks, provided it is not topped up by the drinking supply. Bore water and water extracted from rivers is excluded. Some government restrictions do apply so always check with your local council and/or the NSW Office of Water.

Can I still wash my dog outside?

Under Water Wise Rules you may wash and rinse your pet using a bucket or hose fitted with a trigger nozzle at any time of day.

My business is water-reliant. What do the changes mean for me?

Some businesses that heavily rely on water can use hand held hoses fitted with trigger nozzles, sprinklers or other watering systems at any time. This includes commercial nurseries, market gardeners, commercial growers, landscapers, mobile garden contractors and persons responsible for the maintenance of community gardens, bowling greens, cricket wickets, golf tees and greens, croquet, hockey, tennis and racing surfaces.

If we have lots of rain, do Water Wise Rules still apply?

Yes, conserving water through simple actions means more water remains in storages so we are better equipped for drought. Just because it is raining around you does not necessarily mean it is raining in Hunter Water's catchment areas.

Are there any exemptions from Water Wise Rules?

Yes, exemptions include establishing a new lawn, construction, health, safety, discolouration and environmental issues. For example, you can use a high pressure water cleaner to remove oil spilt on a driveway, or hose pavers around a swimming pool that have become slippery due to salt build up. For more information visit hunterwater.com.au/waterwise.

How will Water Wise Rules be enforced?

Hunter Water will respond to reports of alleged breaches after 1 July. Fines of \$220 for individuals and \$550 for businesses apply.

Can I report someone in the community who I think is breaching Water Wise Rules?

If you see a breach of Water Wise Rules after 1 July, you can report it on Hunter Water's website or by calling the Customer Centre on 1300 657 657.

FURTHER ACTION TO SAVE WATER

Hunter Water is leading by example. Its water saving activities include:

- Conducting water audits for large commercial and industrial water users to minimise water usage – expected to save more than 250 million litres of water this year;
- Improving water efficiency for irrigation, cooling and cleaning for businesses through the Hunter Business Water Saver program;
- Providing free water efficient showerheads under the Showerhead Exchange program;
- Supporting loans for low income earners to buy water efficient washing machines;
- Conducting a leakage investigation program for primary and secondary schools; and
- Promoting water saving tips online at hunterwater.com.au.