

Information from Hunter Water Website

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/Save-Water/Water-Restrictions/Water-Restrictions.aspx>

Water Restrictions




As a region we're experiencing the lowest water levels in our dams in over two decades. Water restrictions apply to everyone in the Lower Hunter and reducing our water consumption now will help us save water for our future supply. Changing a little can save a lot!



Level 1 water restrictions will apply to all properties connected to Hunter Water's water supply network in the areas of Cessnock, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Dungog and small parts of Singleton. [View a map of our area of operations](#)

A Quick Guide to Level 1 Water Restrictions

Level 1 water restrictions are an extension of the existing [Water Wise Rules](#), and are simple actions to help save water every day.

Restriction level	Home and business	Major and large business customers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor watering before 10am or after 4pm with a trigger nozzle• All hoses must have a trigger nozzle• No hosing of hard surfaces such as concrete, paths and driveways• Wash your vehicle on the grass using a trigger nozzle• No sprinklers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Major customers implement Water Efficiency Management Plans• Large customers prepare Water Efficiency Management Plans

What's Allowed Under Level 1 Water Restrictions?

Activity	What can you do?	What can't you do?
Watering lawns and gardens 	<p>You can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ To avoid the heat of the day, water lawns and gardens by hand held hose before 10am and after 4pm if fitted with a trigger nozzle or device that can be turned off instantly ■ Use drip irrigation systems before 10am and after 4pm 	<p>You can't:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use sprinklers at any time ■ Leave hoses or taps running unattended
Cleaning external hard surfaces (paths, driveways & concrete) 	<p>You can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Spot clean for safety, health or emergency reasons with a hose fitted with trigger nozzle or with high pressure cleaning equipment 	<p>You can't</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use a hose for general cleaning of hard surfaces such as paths, driveways and paved areas ■ Leave hoses and taps running unattended
Washing vehicles, boats and buildings 	<p>You can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wash vehicles, boats & buildings if using a bucket, high pressure cleaning equipment or a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle <p>Tip: wash your car on your lawn and your grass will benefit</p>	<p>You can't</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wash vehicles, boats and buildings using a hose without a trigger nozzle
Filling private pools and spas 	<p>You can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Top up existing pools if using a trigger nozzle or device that can be turned off instantly ■ Fill a new or renovated pool or spa over 10,000 litres capacity by obtaining a permit and using an approved pool cover 	<p>You can't</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Top up an existing pool without using a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or device that can be turned off instantly ■ Leave an unattended hose running in a pool ■ Fill a new or renovated pool or spa over 10,000 litres capacity unless you have a permit and an approved pool cover
Internal use 	<p>You can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Help water saving efforts by repairing internal leaks as quickly as possible, such as dripping taps or leaking toilets <p>Tip: Fixing a leaking toilet can save you between 10 to 260 litres a day.</p>	

What's Excluded From Water Restrictions?

There are basic exclusions from restrictions activity:

- Recycled Water
- Greywater (water from sinks, showers, washing machines etc.)
- Rainwater (provided the tank/dam is not topped from, or switched to, the drinking water supply)
- Bore water
- Water used for firefighting, testing and related activities.

FAQs - Your Questions About Water Restrictions Answered

Learn more about how water restrictions apply to your home or business.



Information for homes ▶



Information for businesses ▶

The Next Water Restrictions Levels

Level 1 water restrictions will remain in place until storages have fully recovered, but remember, just because it's raining around you, doesn't mean it's raining in our catchment areas. If drought conditions continue, we could move through water restrictions levels 2 and 3.

Restriction level

Home and business

All business customers



- Outdoor watering reduced to every second day
- Vehicles & buildings bucket wash only
- 4 minute maximum shower

- Large customers implement Water Efficiency Management Plans
- All customers prepare Water Efficiency Management Plans



- Total ban of outdoor water use

- All customers implement Water Efficiency Management Plans