

## In a Time of Drought

Here are a few simple ways you can help:

- 💧 Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
- ✂️ Swap baths for short showers
- 🪴 Collect rainwater for your plants
- 🌱 Water early morning or evening to reduce evaporation
- 🍲 Reuse water from cooking to hydrate your garden

### In the home

- **Turn off the tap** when brushing your teeth, shaving or washing up. It's easy to forget, but this simple habit can save up to 9 litres every minute.
- **Only boil what you need.** Whether it's the kettle or a saucepan, using less water means using less energy too.
- **Showers instead of baths.** A quick five-minute shower can use half the water of a standard bath.
- **An easy upgrade for your toilet.** A water-saving device in your cistern can cut down each flush by 1 to 3 litres.
- **Fix that leak.** Dripping and leaky taps waste an average of 13 litres per day.
- **Use when full.** Dishwashers are surprisingly often more efficient than washing up by hand but make sure to fully load it before running, the same goes for washing machines.
- **Save and reuse.** Cooking pasta or rinsing veg? Use that water on your plants instead of pouring it down the drain. Similarly, if you need to run your tap for a while before it gets hot, collect that water and use it in the garden.

### Speaking of the garden

- **Use a can, not a hose.** A watering can uses far less water and gets it right where your plants need it. No more watering the patio!
- **Water in the early morning or evening** to minimise evaporation.
- **Catch the rain.** Install a water butt or barrel to collect rainwater for the garden or car.

- **Add mulch** on top of your soil to help it retain moisture and reduce the need for watering.
- **Leave the lawn.** Grass turning brown is natural in dry spells and it'll bounce back with the rain. Plus, sprinklers can use up to 1000 litres of water an hour, which is more than a family of four uses in the home in a single day! You can also let it grow a little longer to help the soil to retain moisture.