



What is the Waterwise Council Program?

The Water Corporation and the Department of Water, with support from the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) – Local Governments for Sustainability, have developed a Waterwise Council Program. The aim of this program is to build a co-operative working relationship with local governments to improve water use efficiency in local governments and their communities.

What are the benefits of becoming a Waterwise Council?

Becoming a Waterwise Council will provide a number of benefits, including:

- a better understanding of councils' water use
- potential water and financial savings through improved efficiency
- free specialist Waterwise training courses for appropriate council staff
- access to Waterwise materials on water efficiency and conservation
- access to the Waterwise branding to promote the council as a sustainable water manager
- recognition as a leader in water use efficiency and conservation

How can I become a Waterwise Council?

The Waterwise Council Program is free to join and is open to all councils within Western Australia. To be endorsed as a Waterwise Council, a council must fulfil the selection criteria:

Criteria 1. Achieve milestones 1 to 3 of the ICLEI Water Campaign™ (community or corporate modules) OR if a council is not participating in the Water Campaign™ equivalent criteria are applicable.

1.1 Nominate an employee/position as a point of contact for water related issues.

1.2 Review council water consumption

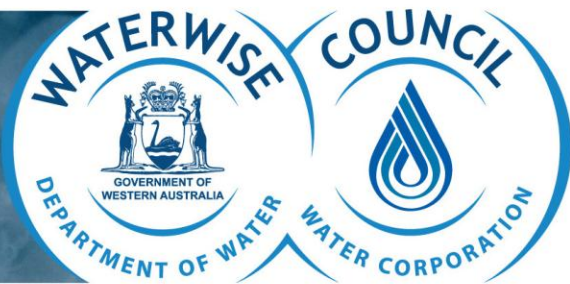
- Identify and audit one of the top water using sites owned by the council.
- Include the water auditing of the other top water using sites in the council's action plan.
- Commit to the implementation of 50% of recommendations from the audit.

1.3 Complete an action plan that outlines actions to improve water management within the council's own operations (corporate) and improve water efficiency in the residential and non-residential sectors (community).

The Plan must include all the mandatory corporate and community actions as listed in the program guidelines including:

- Waterwise verge policy.
- Waterwise purchasing policy.
- Promote the use of waterwise vegetation and irrigation within council properties.
- Interact with households and business ratepayers to promote water efficiency.
- Encourage community involvement in other Waterwise Programs.





1.4 Report progress

- Demonstrate substantial progress towards council having implemented actions from their corporate and/or community local action plan.

Criteria 2. Ensure all appropriate staff members attend the Water Corporation's Waterwise Specialist training sessions.

- Waterwise Auditing – a session on understanding the auditing process, what is required and why, and the terminology frequently used. It also covers the basics on how to conduct an audit and determine water savings and then how to develop a recommendation plan. This session is recommended for building maintenance staff and administrators in this area.
- Waterwise Gardening and Irrigation – a session on effective gardening techniques, waterwise concepts including plant selection, soil preparation, mulching, irrigation considerations, etc. This session is recommended for grounds keepers, parks and maintenance staff, customer service staff and administration staff.

Criteria 3. Review the irrigation practices on council grounds and public open space including:

- 3.1 Demonstrate that irrigation systems using scheme water are operating effectively and efficiently.
- 3.2 Submit a water conservation plan to the Department of Water where required.

Criteria 4. No breaches of water licence terms or conditions, including the 9am-6pm daytime sprinkler ban, set by the Department of Water in the past 12 months.

The Department of Water will verify there have been no breaches as part of the assessment process.

Criteria 5. No breach notices for scheme water usage issued by the Water Corporation to council in the past 12 months.

Register your interest

To register for the Waterwise Council Program email the Water Corporation at:
water.efficiency@watercorporation.com.au

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Government of Western Australia
Department of Water

