

# Every drop counts



**On average, people use a quarter of their household water on the garden.**

This is placing a great strain on our rivers. But by doing some simple things you can reduce your water consumption and ensure there will always be enough ... for us and the environment.

- 1 Only water your garden when it needs it.** Check the soil first to see if it's dry. Then water your garden slowly, thoroughly and longer... but less often. This encourages the root system to grow deeper, where water is retained for longer, and will increase the drought tolerance of your plants.
- 2 Mulching** helps the soil retain water and reduces evaporation by up to 70%.
- 3 Plant local natives** that use less water and require low maintenance.

**4 Use a trigger nozzle** on your hose to help ensure water only goes where it's needed.

**5 Fit a timer** to your sprinkler to prevent overwatering. So you don't have to remember to turn it off.

**6 Rain switches and soil moisture sensors** automatically turn off your watering system when it isn't required.

**7 Cover your pool** to reduce evaporation – this can save up to 30,000 litres a year.

**8 Check your meter** to detect any leaking pipes.

**9 Install a rainwater tank** so you can save water.

**For more information visit [www.livingthing.net.au](http://www.livingthing.net.au)**