



NEWSLETTER

2024 ANNUAL COUNCIL TARIFF INCREASE

Important notice to all property owners:

Starting June 1, 2024, winter tariffs will come into effect. Additionally, beginning July 1, 2024, the annual council tariff increases will be implemented. Consequently, you will notice an increase in your utility charges

The planned tariff adjustments will be applied to the listed municipalities:

City of Johannesburg

Electricity	Water	Sewer	Refuse
12.7%	7.7%	7.7%	5.9%

Ekurhuleni

Electricity	Water	Sewer	Refuse
12.75%	9%	7%	6%

Tshwane

Electricity	Water	Sewer	Refuse
12%	5.9%	5.9%	5%

As electricity and water rates are about to increase, Solver Property Services has compiled this helpful guide to assist users in conserving water and electricity, ultimately cutting down on monthly expenses.

ELECTRICITY

Largest electricity consuming appliances in the home:



According to MyBroadband, your kettle is actually the most expensive electrical appliance to run. While kettles might not be used frequently throughout the day—unless you're a coffee lover or need hot water for cooking and cleaning—heating appliances like kettles account for 47% of energy use.



Tumble dryers are another energy-intensive appliance. Even if you don't use it often, tumble dryers consume a significant amount of energy to heat up and dry clothes. To reduce energy consumption, try air-drying clothes or using a clothesline. If the weather isn't cooperating, use these methods first and then finish drying in the tumble dryer for a shorter period.



Geysers are among the biggest electricity consumers in South African households, contributing up to 30% of a household's monthly energy costs. To reduce geyser energy consumption, consider installing a geyser timer or switching to a solar geyser.



Loading the dishwasher is often easier than leaving dishes in the sink for someone else to handle. However, dishwashers are significant energy consumers, using a lot of energy to heat water and run the machine. To save energy, run the dishwasher on the economy setting and only when fully loaded. It might also be more budget-friendly to wash dishes by hand.



Washing machines are used regularly and consume significant amounts of energy to heat water and operate. Some households run multiple loads per day, which adds up. It's better to plan your washing schedule and avoid running small loads.



Electronic stoves use a lot of energy to heat up and cook food. To reduce energy consumption, try preparing one-pot meals that don't require heating multiple pots and pans. You could also switch to a gas stove or an induction stove, which are more energy-efficient.

Saving Energy in South Africa's Energy Crisis

Given South Africa's energy crisis with loadshedding and increased energy costs, it's crucial to save on household expenses. This involves being aware of the biggest electricity consumers and taking steps to reduce energy consumption.

You can take smaller steps, like switching to energy-efficient light bulbs and turning off electronics when not in use. For more significant savings, consider switching to a gas or induction stove or installing a geyser timer or a solar geyser.

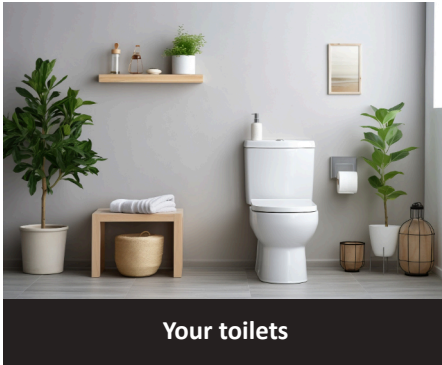
We trust that this advice will help you reduce your power bills.

Electricity saving tips:

01. Install energy saving light bulbs
02. Increase your ceiling insulation
03. Use energy-intensive appliances during off-peak hours
04. Replace old refrigerators or freezers with newer (more energy efficient) versions
05. Only fill the kettle with the amount of water needed
06. Turn lights off when you're not using them
07. Washing clothes at 30° will vastly reduce your electrical consumption
08. Set air conditioners to an average of 23° in summer
09. Cooking one-pot meals saves both time and energy
10. Beware of vampire appliances like TVs and PCs, which use up to 15% of total electricity when in standby mode

WATER

Top 5 Water Wasters in your Household:

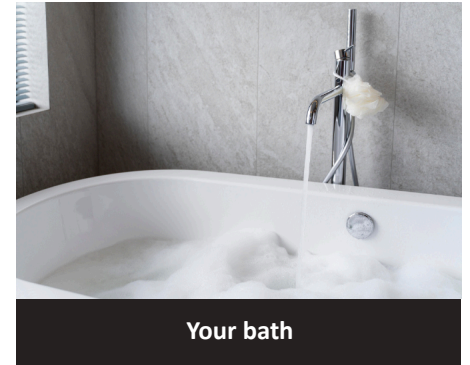


If you want to make the biggest dent in your water use, look no further than your toilet. It accounts for up to 25% of household water consumption, making it a prime target for water-saving efforts. Approximately 20% of toilets leak to some degree. According to various studies, a running toilet may waste as much as 700 litres per day, which is up to two-thirds of an average family's water use.

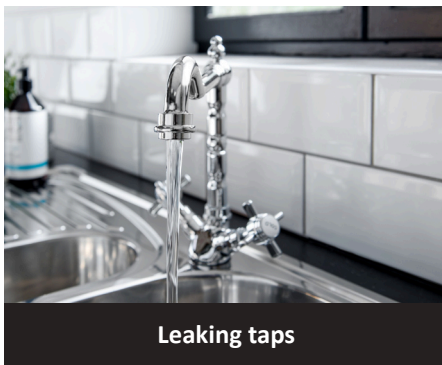


Consider the following to save water when it comes to your washing machine:

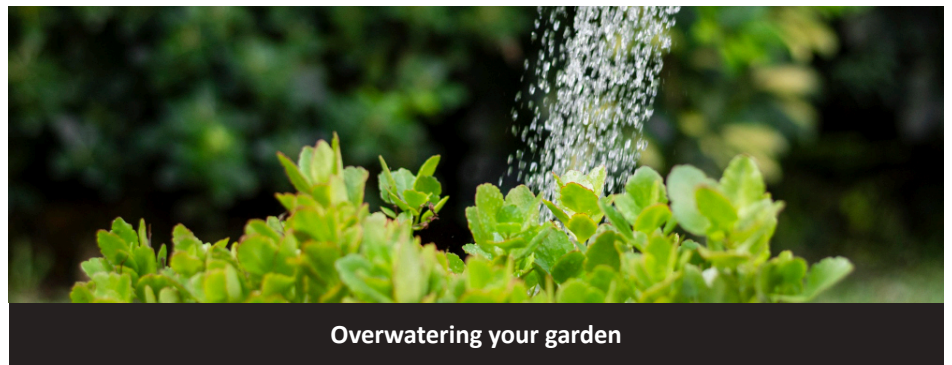
- Re-use towels
- Use Less Hot Water
- Run Full Loads
- Use Size Cycles
- Skip the Extra Rinse



One effective way to save water is by opting for showers instead of baths. Baths typically require a large volume of water, often using up to 250+ litres per session, whereas a short shower can use significantly less, especially when equipped with a low-flow showerhead. By reducing the frequency of baths it will not only conserve water but also contribute to lower utility bills.



Fixing leaking taps is essential for conserving water and reducing waste. A single dripping tap can waste up to 70 litres of water a day, which adds up to thousands of litres over the course of a year. Regular checking and maintenance of your taps will ensure that they are functioning efficiently, helping to preserve water and promote environmental responsibility.



Avoiding overwatering your garden is a crucial step in conserving water. Overwatering not only wastes a valuable resource but can also harm your plants by drowning their roots and promoting the growth of mould and mildew. To prevent this, water your garden early in the morning or late in the evening to minimise evaporation and ensure the water reaches the roots. Utilize efficient irrigation systems like drip irrigation or soaker hoses, which deliver water directly to the plant roots, reducing runoff and evaporation. Additionally, using mulch can help retain soil moisture and reduce the need for frequent watering. By watering wisely, you can maintain a healthy garden while significantly cutting down on water use.

Water saving tips:

01. Limit your shower time
02. Switch the water off while shaving or brushing teeth
03. Fix any leaks
04. Water your garden when the sun is down
05. Water your plants with recycled water
06. Use bathwater to flush toilets
07. Put a brick or plastic bottle in your toilet cistern

These water and electricity-saving tips were brought to you by Solver Property Services. We understand the importance of conserving resources and reducing household expenses, especially in light of rising utility costs. By implementing these simple yet effective strategies, you can make a significant impact on your water and electricity consumption. From fixing leaking taps and avoiding overwatering your garden to opting for showers over baths and being mindful of energy-intensive appliances, these tips are designed to help you live more sustainably and economically. Solver Property Services is committed to providing practical solutions that benefit both your wallet and the environment.