

# Water Saving Rebate Program

Rebates available for reticulated water customers of Clarence Valley Council

Rainwater Tanks  
Lo-Flow Showerheads  
Dual Flush Toilets



# Clarence Valley Council Water Rebate Program

Making your home Waterwise  
is easy and affordable

Rebates and offers available to CVC water customers:

- \* **\$450 to \$1,100** for a new rainwater tank
- \* **\$300** for connecting an existing rainwater tank to the home
- \* **FREE** Lo-Flow showerheads “new for old”. Value: \$50 approx
- \* **\$50** for Waterwise Dual Flush Toilets

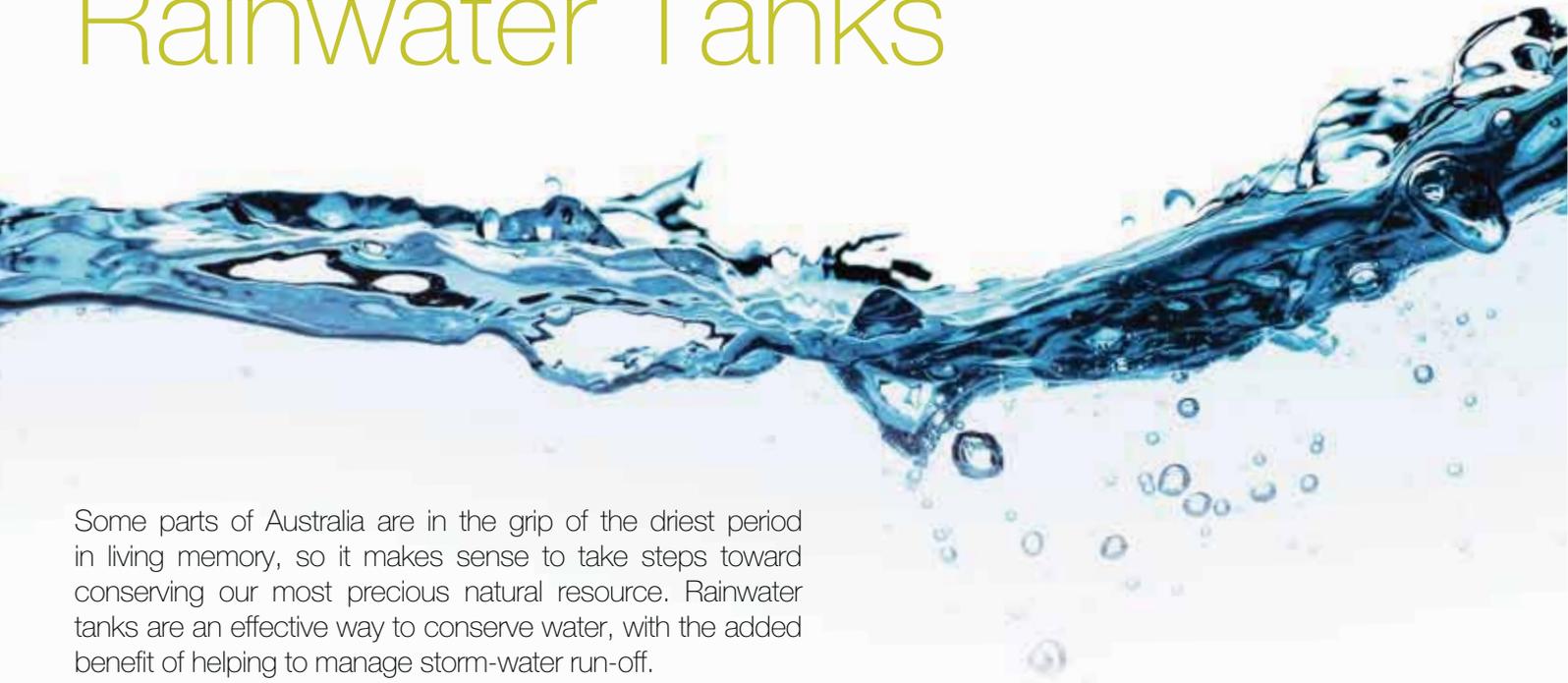
“Water is H<sub>2</sub>O, hydrogen two parts, oxygen one, but there is also a third thing that makes it water and nobody knows what that is.”

D.H. Lawrence, (1885-1930)  
Pansies, 1929

**WATER**  
*Imagine life without it.*

Shannon Creek Dam

# Rainwater Tanks



Some parts of Australia are in the grip of the driest period in living memory, so it makes sense to take steps toward conserving our most precious natural resource. Rainwater tanks are an effective way to conserve water, with the added benefit of helping to manage storm-water run-off.

Clarence Valley Council supports the water saving benefits of rainwater tanks in residential, commercial and industrial settings.

However, CVC is also bound by its duty to protect the community by maintaining the quality of the region's drinking water.

CVC does not recommend the use of rainwater tanks for drinking purposes where a reticulated, potable water supply is available.

To this end, it's important to undertake some research and careful thought before deciding whether to buy a rainwater tank for use at home.

For example; have you considered the following ways of reducing your water consumption?

- Install Lo-Flow showerheads. Available FREE through Clarence Valley Council's "new for old" exchange program.
- Take shorter showers.
- Install a dual flush toilet suite. Assisted by a \$50 rebate from CVC.
- Reduce water flow by installing tap aerators in kitchen and bathrooms.
- Fix all leaking taps and cisterns. Saves water/saves money.
- Choose washing machines/dishwashers with a high water efficiency star rating.
- Create a water efficient garden by using tap timers and trigger nozzles on hoses.

(see our Waterwise Garden Guide at CVC offices)

After taking these simple steps toward becoming a Waterwise home, you may find that you don't need to install a rainwater tank after all.

“When the well's dry, we know the worth of water.”

Benjamin Franklin, (1706-1790)  
Poor Richard's Almanac



# Rainwater Tanks



## Rainwater Tank Cost Considerations

A fully 'plumbed' rainwater tank can cost from around \$3,000 to \$8,000.

While the type of build material such as concrete, fibreglass, metal or polyethylene will have a bearing on the final cost, you will also need to consider the following;

- the cost of delivery and installation
- connection by a licensed plumber
- possible need to construct a tank stand
- adjustments to roof, guttering and downpipes
- purchasing first flush devices, gutter guards etc
- purchasing a pump if gravity feed is insufficient
- ongoing maintenance costs

## Rainwater Tank Building Requirements

Rainwater tanks placed above ground level generally do not need development consent from Clarence Valley Council.

There are, however several compliance provisions for both owners and installers.

- The tank stand cannot rest on building footings or be supported by a wall.
- They cannot be installed where water is for drinking purposes and the catchment roof has lead flashings.
- Where town water is available the tank cannot be cross connected with any systems supplying drinking water unless first fitted with mechanical

backflow prevention devices (in accordance with AS/ NZS 2845.1:1998, AS2845.2-1996, AS2845.3-1993 and AS/ NZ 3500.1.2).

- All tank and tank stand installations are to be structurally sound and must comply with the manufacturer's and/or designer's instructions.
- Suitable screens must be installed to shield against the intrusion of debris and animal matter, and to prevent or discourage mosquito breeding.
- To protect against pollutants, the tank must be fitted with a "first-flush device", allowing initial rainfall roof-runoff to bypass to the tank.
- In rural areas any water tank over 40,000 litres requires council consent.
- All pipe-work and associated equipment must be installed by a licensed plumber.

## Water Restrictions

All internally plumbed rainwater tanks must comply with the Clarence Valley Council Water Restriction Policy. The policy is available as a download by following the links at; <http://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au>

## Maintenance

During the recommended lifespan of your rainwater tank, some inspection and maintenance will be necessary to ensure that it is operating efficiently. Roof, gutters, first flush devices and insect screens must be kept clear of any debris or leaves, and the internal sides and bottom of your tank should be checked every two to three years for sludge deposits.

## More Information

For relevant local requirements, information on health guidelines and rainwater tank maintenance, potential applicants should contact council by visiting; <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/public-health/ehb/water/rainwater.html>



# Rainwater Tank Rebate Program

If you are a Clarence Valley Council town water customer and do decide to install a rainwater tank, you will be eligible to apply for a rebate ranging from \$450 to \$1,100 depending on the tank's capacity.

However, to encourage maximum water conservation efficiency, terms and conditions do apply to the rebate program. For instance; to enable year-round operation, rainwater tanks must be connected to a home's internal plumbing (for laundry and/or toilet use).

Terms and Conditions can be found on the reverse side of the Rainwater Tank Rebate Customer Application Form in this booklet. It is recommended that this application form be read in association with all the information in this booklet.

## Range of Rebates

As the water industry embraces greater water efficiency initiatives and developments, the regulations regarding these measures are changing. The NSW Plumbing Code and NSW State Government guidelines now permit the reuse of domestic "grey water" as well as the plumbing of rainwater tanks into laundries and toilets.

These measures were not permissible when the CVC Rebate Program was first established.

If you are an existing town water customer and have a water saving initiative, then contact CVC. The program has been extended to permit rebates for measures which provide a substitute to potable water within the relevant guidelines.

For example; a \$300 rebate is now available for CVC water supply customers who internally connect home laundry and/or toilets to their existing rainwater tanks (2,000 litres and above). All rebate applications will be consider on merit.

“Water is the best of all things.”

Pindar (c. 522 BC - c. 438 BC)  
Olympian Odes

## Terms and Conditions

It is important that rebate applicants read the terms and conditions on the reverse side of the Application Form before submitting their required documentation.

## How to apply

Your rainwater tank must be registered with CVC, fully installed and all plumbing work completed before you apply for a rebate.

Make sure you:

- have read the terms and conditions of the rebate program.
- fill in your part of the Application Form insert.
- have your plumber fill in the appropriate section.
- attach your receipts for the tank and plumbing installation.
- send your Application Form to:

Rainwater Tank Rebate Program  
Clarence Valley Council  
LOCKED BAG 23  
GRAFTON NSW 2460

## Your Rebate

Once CVC has fully verified your application, your rebate cheque will be mailed within 60 days of receipt. Recommended rebates are based on the following table;

Tank Capacity (litres)	Rebate
2,000 - 3,999	\$ 450
4,000 - 6,999	\$ 700
7,000 - 9,999	\$ 800
10,000 and above	\$1,100

## Further Information

It is recommended that you discuss your requirements with a licensed plumber. CVC's Customer Services Section can also assist on 6643 0200.

# Free Offer

## New For Old Showerheads

Replacing your old, less efficient showerheads will use less water and save on water heating costs.

### The Free Water Efficient Shower

Your FREE, "Lo-Flow" SHOWERHEAD is a high quality, new generation product valued at around \$50. With the convenience of an adjustable arm, its three spray settings deliver a fantastic shower.

The new showerheads conform to all Australian standards, come with a lifetime warranty, are an Energy Smart Four Star rated product and come fully packaged with fitting instructions and Teflon tape.

To be a part in this great FREE OFFER simply take your old showerhead(s), with a copy of your water account and/or general rates notice, to one of the following locations;.

**Grafton CVC Office** - 2 Prince Street

**Maclean CVC Office** - 50 River Street

This offer is available for customers on reticulated/town water only and conditions apply.

For more information phone Clarence Valley Council on 6643 0200

You don't need to be a DIY expert to fit your new showerhead.

- Firstly; turn off shower taps.
- Using a spanner, turn the showerhead base anti-clockwise and remove.
- Exchange your showerhead(s) "old for new" at your local CVC office.
- Wrap several turns of Teflon tape around the thread of your new showerhead.
- Fit and secure with spanner. Do not over-tighten.
- If in doubt, check out CVC's helpful DVD, available at the office counter.



“If there is magic on the planet, it is contained in Water.”

Loren Eiseley, *The Immense Journey*  
1957

# \$50 Rebate

## Dual Flush Toilet



### Waterwise Dual Flush Toilet Suite (Cistern & Pan) Replacement Subsidy

Save water, save money and help save the environment by replacing your old single flush toilet suite with a dual flush toilet suite (cistern and pan).

You'll not only be Waterwise, Clarence Valley Council will also give you \$50 towards the replacement.

To be eligible for the full \$50 rebate you must;

- be a water supply customer of CVC.
- contact your local plumber for advice about the most suitable dual flush toilet suite and installation.
- purchase a 6/3 litre dual flush toilet suite (cistern and pan) to replace an existing single flush toilet suite. Offer does not apply to new developments.
- claim no more than two (2) rebates per water customer account.
- have the unit installed, and then take the old single flush cistern (not the pan), your water rates account and the sales receipt and/or plumber's account to:

**Grafton CVC Office** - 2 Prince Street

**Maclean CVC Office** - 50 River Street

CVC will then dispose of your old single flush cistern (not the pan) and issue you with a Waterwise Dual Flush Toilet Replacement Register form. Once processed, a cheque to the value of \$50 per unit (max 2 units) can then be forwarded to your address.

CVC may audit your premises to verify that the new unit has been installed and to assess water savings benefits.

Before purchasing, installing and applying for a rebate on more than two dual flush toilet suites at the one time, you will need to directly discuss the rebates with CVC.

Note that this offer is limited, and CVC reserves the right to amend and alter the program, and adjust the rebate for specific circumstances (e.g. lesser sales receipts).



“For many of us, water simply flows from a faucet, and we think little about it beyond this point of contact. We have lost a sense of respect for the wild river, for the complex workings of a wetland, for the intricate web of life that water supports.”

Sandra Postel, Last Oasis  
Facing Water Scarcity, 2003

# Clarence Valley Council Water Rebate Program



REBATES AND OFFERS on..  
Rainwater Tanks: **up to \$1,100**  
**FREE:** Lo-Flow Showerheads  
Dual Flush Toilets: **\$50**

"Offers are limited. Clarence Valley Council reserves the right to amend and alter the program, including the Terms and Conditions, and adjust the rebate for specific circumstances.

Clarence Valley Council accepts no liability in respect of any claim, cause of action or loss or damage arising out of, or in relation to, any rainwater tanks, rainwater tank system or the use of any water from such rainwater tank or system that is the subject of funding assistance.

The applicant(s) agree that they will indemnify and keep indemnified Clarence Valley Council from any claim or liability arising out of, or in relation to, the rainwater tank system that is the subject of this application to the extent that any claim or liability is not caused by Clarence Valley Council's negligence or breach of this application or any other term implied by law."