

The water affair

Singaporean households consume some 700 million litres of water each day which is enough to fill 280 Olympic-size swimming pools or 470 million 1.5-litre bottles.

Water use hit a peak in the first two weeks of this month, spiking to 1.4 million cu m, or 3% more than the norm.

According to a survey done in 2003 on 445 households from all household types, the majority of water usage in each household is:

29%
on showers

22%
on washing in the kitchen sink

19%
on laundry

16%
on toilet flushing



Singaporeans may not realise the impact of their own water usage habits and have taken the ready availability of water for granted.

90 litres

of drinking water flows away when you shampoo for 10 minutes with the shower on.

That is enough to fill a child's tumbler for 25 weeks.



It takes just simple changes to make an impact on our water consumption.

40 litres

of water gushes away when you wash dishes for 5 minutes under a running tap.

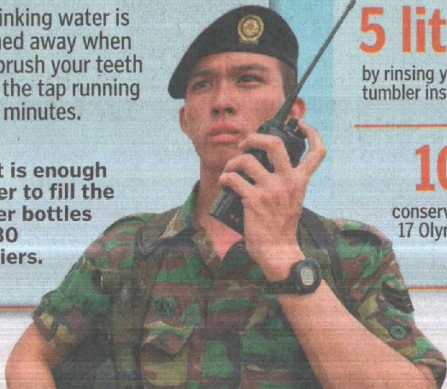
That is enough water to last a newborn for 26 days.



30 litres

of drinking water is drained away when you brush your teeth with the tap running for 5 minutes.

That is enough water to fill the water bottles for 30 soldiers.



SAVE:
9 litres

by cutting shower time by 1 minute



5 litres

by rinsing your mouth with a tumbler instead of a running tap

10 litres

conserved a day adds up to 17 Olympic-size swimming pools in a year