



LIVING VICTORIA  
WATER REBATE PROGRAM  
1 JULY 2012 TO 30 JUNE 2015

APPLY  
FOR A  
REBATE

# Home & Garden

**EXTENDED**



# The Living Victoria Water Rebate Program helps you save water and money when you purchase eligible water-efficient products.

The Living Victoria Water Rebate Program provides Victorian households with an opportunity to reduce operating costs and water consumption by purchasing and installing water efficient products. The Victorian Government has committed \$40 million to the program and as of 1 July 2012 rainwater tanks rebates have increased to a maximum of \$1500.

The program is also designed to support the government's objectives for urban water. The government is committed to the efficient use of all water resources, including drinking water, rainwater, stormwater and recycled water. Taking advantage of all the water sources available to us will help to reduce pressure on our drinking water supplies, contribute to improved liveability of our cities and towns, and reduce negative impacts on the environment.

## **Extension of Program**

- Rebates have been increased for rainwater tanks and tank to toilet connections:
  - Rainwater tank connected to toilet OR laundry (tank size 2,000 to 3,999 litres)  
- now \$850
  - Rainwater tank connected to toilet OR laundry (tank size 4,000 litres or greater)  
- now \$1,300
  - Rainwater tank connected to toilet AND laundry (tank size 4,000 litres or greater)  
- now \$1,500
  - Tank to Toilet and/or Laundry Connection Rebate  
- now \$500
- Homes built prior to 1 May 2011 are now eligible to claim a rainwater tank rebate
- Washing machine rebate continued

An example of this is the installation of a rainwater tank (connected to a toilet or laundry). By installing tanks for rainwater harvesting, households can reduce their consumption of drinking water and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from their property, which will help improve the health of local waterways.

The rebate program includes domestic households that are self supplied (not connected to a reticulated water supply) and includes rebates on washing machines that are 5 star water (WELS), with at least a 4 star energy rating and pool covers with a roller or reel. Other eligible products include rainwater tanks connected to a toilet and/or laundry, water efficient showerheads, upgrading to eligible dual flush toilets, garden products and systems for reusing household waste water.

Under the new program rainwater tanks must be designed, manufactured and certified to the relevant Australian Standards to be eligible for a rebate.

Rebates on water efficient products make it even easier for Victorians to afford and install products in their home and garden, and also assists in keeping water bills down. The Living Victoria Water Rebate Program rewards Victorians for the excellent water savings they have made already.

We need to be smarter with the use of our water in our cities and towns to make the most of every drop in our homes and gardens.

Terms and conditions apply.



# CORE OFFERS

\* The Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) is Australia's national mandatory water efficiency and labelling standards. For more information visit [www.waterrating.gov.au](http://www.waterrating.gov.au)

## WATER CONSERVATION AUDIT REBATE \$50

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

A water conservation audit is a service to assess where a household can save water, quantify potential savings and recommend products and methods to help achieve the savings. This may be an indoor or outdoor audit.

## HOT WATER RECIRCULATOR REBATE \$150

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

A hot water recirculator is a device that saves cold water in the hot water pipes by diverting cold water back into the hot water system or cold water plumbing. This reduces water wastage by allowing the water to be used within the home.

- Systems directing the cold water to rainwater tanks or storage for outdoor use are not eligible.
- This product must be installed by a licensed plumber and a PIC certificate may be required if the product and plumbing costs are \$750 or greater.



## WATER-EFFICIENT SHOWERHEAD 3 STAR RATED REBATE \$10-\$20

(LIMIT 2 PER PROPERTY)

A water-efficient showerhead uses up to 30% less water and can be fitted to most showers.

- A 3 star WELS\* rated showerhead uses 9 litres of water or less per minute.
- A \$10 rebate is available when the cost of the showerhead is greater than \$30 and less than \$100.
- A \$20 rebate is available when the cost of the showerhead is \$100 or greater.

## DUAL-FLUSH TOILET REBATE \$100

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

For replacement of a single flush or less water efficient dual-flush toilet (3 star WELS rated or better).

- An eligible dual-flush toilet uses 3 litres of water on a half flush, 6 litres or less on a full flush.
- This product must be installed by a licensed plumber.
- This rebate is for a replacement toilet only. New houses are not eligible.



## PERMANENT GREYWATER SYSTEM REBATE \$500

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

A permanent greywater system recycles waste water from laundries and bathrooms for use on the garden. The greywater systems:

- Must include suitable subsurface irrigation as part of the system.
- Must be EPA compliant and have a council septic tank permit if required.
- Greywater systems must be permanently installed at the property by a licensed plumber, provide overflow to sewer or septic tank and not store untreated greywater for more than 24 hours.
- A PIC certificate must be included with your rebate application.
- This rebate is not available for blackwater or combined black/greywater systems.

Only one of each of the core product rebates can be claimed per eligible property, except showerheads (two rebates per property). Rebates are available for all Victorian households that are connected to an urban reticulated water supply, who have an account with a Victorian urban water supplier or are self-supplied (not connected to a reticulated/mains water supply).

For more information visit [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au)

# RAINWATER TANKS

GENERAL CONDITIONS: Tanks connected to new houses that received a building permit for the house after 1 May 2011 are not eligible for a rebate. The rainwater tank must be designed, manufactured and certified to relevant Australian Standards. A licensed plumber must install all rainwater tanks. A PIC certificate of compliance, receipts and a copy of the necessary council permit (where required) must be included with your rebate application.

## TANK REBATE

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

### REBATE \$850

Rainwater tank connected to toilet OR laundry (tank size 2,000 to 3,999 litres).

### REBATE \$1,300

Rainwater tank connected to toilet OR laundry (tank size 4,000 litres or greater).

### REBATE \$1,500

Rainwater tank connected to toilet AND laundry (tank size 4,000 litres or greater).

### TANK TO TOILET AND/OR LAUNDRY CONNECTION REBATE \$500

Eligible where an existing tank of 2,000 litres or greater is connected to the toilet and/or laundry.



## POOL COVER WITH ROLLER/REEL REBATE \$200

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

- Available for pool covers with a roller or reel to assist with covering the pool.
- Pool covers must be a Smart Approved WaterMark product, be a minimum of 400 microns thick and be UV stabilised.



Image courtesy Remco

## WASHING MACHINE REBATE \$150

(LIMIT 1 PER PROPERTY)

- Eligible washing machines must be 5 star WELS water rating with at least a 4 star energy rating. Washing machines must be for domestic use.



# BASKET OFFER REBATE \$30

A \$30 rebate is available on the purchase of one or more products with a COMBINED VALUE of \$100 or more.

Only one basket offer rebate is available per eligible customer per calendar year.

## MULCH 1

A garden insulator that retains water and includes organic and inorganic types of mulch.

## COMPOST/ MULCH BIN

A bin used to hold compost or mulch.

## WETTING/ MOISTURE AGENT

Crystals or liquid that are mixed with soil to retain its water content.

## FLOW INTERRUPTERS FOR TOILETS

The flow interrupter device for a toilet operates by stopping the flush as soon as the pressure on the flush button is released, reducing the amount of water used to flush the toilet.

## SHOWER TIMERS

A device to alert you of how long you have been in the shower.

## RAINWATER DIVERTER

A device which diverts water from the downpipes of a house guttering system to be used on the garden or in a swimming pool.

## TRIGGER NOZZLE 2

A detachable device for your hose, allowing you to release water only when necessary.

## GARDEN TAP TIMER 3

A device to turn taps off after a specific time.

## FLOW AND CONTROL VALVE/TAP AND FLOW REDUCTION DEVICE 4

A valve or device that reduces the flow rate from a tap down to a predetermined controlled level.

## SOIL MOISTURE/RAIN SENSOR 5

A device attached to your garden sprinkler system to sense rain and/or soil moisture. It stops the system operating in wet or rainy conditions.

## TEMPORARY GREYWATER DIVERTER

A rubber hose for insertion in domestic waste pipes to divert greywater to the garden.

## WATERLESS CAR CLEANING PRODUCTS

These products are primarily for cleaning a vehicle but may also wax, polish and/or provide UV screening for vehicles without the addition of water.

## DRIP WATERING SYSTEM/WEEP HOSE

Above-ground or subsurface fittings or porous hoses that weep or drip water along their length rather than spraying it into the air.



# SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

## CORE OFFER

(limit 1 rebate per property except for showerheads)

A Plumbing Industry Commission (PIC) certificate of compliance must be included with your rebate application if the total cost of the product and associated plumbing is greater than \$750.

PRODUCT	REBATE	SUMMARY CONDITIONS
All approved permanent greywater systems	\$500	Must be installed by a licensed plumber and be connected to a suitable subsurface irrigation system. Rebate application must include PIC certificate. Must be EPA compliant and have a council permit if required. This rebate is not available for blackwater or combined black/greywater systems.
Rainwater tanks	\$850 \$1,300 \$1,500	Tank must be installed by a licensed plumber and a PIC certificate provided where total value of tank and associated plumbing is \$750 or greater. Tanks must meet Australian Standards. Tanks connected to houses that received the building permit after 1 May 2011 are not eligible.
Tank to toilet connection	\$500	Where an existing tank of 2,000 litres or greater is connected to the toilet and/or laundry. Connection must be made by a licensed plumber.
Pool cover with roller/wheel	\$200	Available for pool covers with a roller or reel to assist with covering the pool. Pool covers must be a Smart Approved WaterMark product, be a minimum of 400 microns thick and be UV stabilised.
Washing machine	\$150	Eligible washing machines must be 5 star water (WELS) with at least a 4 star energy rating. Washing machines must be for domestic use.
Hot water recirculator	\$150	Must divert the cold water from the hot water pipes back to the household water system and must not discharge to an external tank.
Dual-flush toilet	\$100	Must be installed by a licensed plumber. Must be 3 star WELS rated, 6/3 litre flush or better toilet and replace an existing less efficient toilet (eg single-flush toilet or 9/4.5 litre dual-flush toilet). Rebate payable for cistern or full toilet suite.
Water conservation audit	\$50	Must be conducted by a qualified plumber or other professional listed at <a href="http://www.water.vic.gov.au">www.water.vic.gov.au</a> . Audit may be for indoor or outdoor assessment.
Water-efficient showerhead (limit 2 per property)	\$10 \$20	Must be 3 star rated or better. Showerhead must cost \$30-\$99 to be eligible for a \$10 rebate. Showerhead must cost \$100 or more to be eligible for the \$20 rebate.



### \$30 REBATE

A \$30 rebate is available on the purchase of one or more products with a combined value of \$100 or more.

## BASKET OFFER

(Limit 1 rebate per property per calendar year)

- Flow control valve  
*(must reduce flow to 9 litres per minute or less)*
- Mulch (*organic or inorganic*)
- Wetting/moisture agent
- Compost/mulch bin
- Moisture/rain sensor
- Garden tap timer
- Trigger nozzle
- Drip watering system/weep hose
- Temporary greywater diverter
- Shower timers
- Rainwater diverters
- Waterless car cleaners
- Toilet flush interrupter device

Full terms and conditions are available at [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au) and on back of the claim form.

# THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

## Who is eligible to claim a rebate?

Rebates are available for all Victorian households connected to an urban reticulated water supply, who have an account with a Victorian urban water supplier or are self-supplied (not connected to a reticulated/mains water supply).

## How do I get a rebate?

- If you have a water account with an urban water supplier, you can apply to your water supplier using the reticulated water supply claim form which is available from [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au).
- If you are a fully self supplied, you can complete the self supplied water claim form which is available from [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au) and submit to the address listed on the claim form.
- Claim forms are also available from your local hardware, plumbing supplier, garden retailer or local water supplier.
- Call the Department of Sustainability and Environment on 136 186.

## When do I need to use a plumber?

A licensed plumber must install all rainwater tanks, permanent greywater systems, dual-flush toilets and cisterns, hot water recirculators and tank to toilet connections. Where required, a PIC certificate must be supplied. See terms and conditions for details.

## What is a PIC certificate?

A PIC certificate is a Plumbing Industry Commission (PIC) certificate of compliance that is supplied by a licensed plumber. A PIC certificate must be included with your rebate application if the total cost of the product and associated plumbing is \$750 or greater. Ask your plumber to supply you with a PIC certificate on completion of works.

## Why are rebates now available on washing machines?

Washing machines are one of the biggest water users in the house. Providing a rebate of \$150 on a washing machine with a 5 star WELS water rating and at least a 4 star energy rating makes it easier for people to upgrade to the most efficient models.

## What rebate is available for swimming pool covers?

You can get a rebate of \$200 for a swimming pool cover with a roller or reel. The pool cover must be purchased with a roller or device to assist with the covering/uncovering of the pool and be a Smart Approved WaterMark product. The pool cover must also be a minimum of 400 microns thick and be UV stabilised.

Where an existing roller is already installed at the property, a swimming pool cover rebate can still be claimed, subject to proof of the existing roller being provided with the application.

## What is the rainwater tank rebate?

Rebates between \$850 and \$1,500 are available for rainwater tanks with at least 2,000 litres capacity and connected to the toilet and/or laundry.

All rainwater tanks must also be designed, manufactured and certified to the relevant Australian Standards to be eligible for a rebate under this program.

## Can I claim a rebate for connecting an existing rainwater tank to my toilet?

Yes, you are eligible for the \$500 tank to toilet connection rebate when connecting an existing rainwater tank to the toilet.

## Can I still get a rebate if I buy a tank but don't connect it to my toilet or laundry?

No. In recognition that rainwater tanks provide maximum savings when plumbed to the toilet and/or laundry for year round use, rebates are only available for tanks connected to the toilet and/or laundry.

## Do I need to attach my receipt(s) and proof of installation to my rebate application?

Yes. The original product receipt(s), plumber's receipt and PIC certificate (where required) must be submitted with the application form. Check the claim form for details.

## When does the product need to be purchased and installed?

To be eligible for the rebates you must have purchased and installed your products between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2015. Claims for all rebates must be lodged by 30 September 2015. All claims for products purchased between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012 must be lodged by 30 September 2013.

## How will my rebate be paid?

The rebate for most products will be provided as a credit on your next water bill(s). Where the rebate is \$500 or more, payment may be requested by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) by filling in the relevant details on the claim form. These payments may take around 10-12 weeks to process.

If you are not a customer of a water supplier (have a self supplied water source) your rebates will be paid by EFT by filling in the relevant details on the claim form. These payments may take 10-12 weeks to process.

## How many rebates can I claim?

You can claim one rebate for each core product over the life of the program, including the former rebate scheme, for each eligible property (except for showerheads where two rebates can be claimed). A core product is a washing machine, pool cover, rainwater tank, permanent greywater system, dual flush toilet, hot water recirculator, water audit, shower head and tank to toilet/laundry connection. For the basket of goods you can claim one rebate per calendar year for each eligible property.

# WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION



**FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE BACK OF THE REBATE CLAIM FORM.**

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO OBTAIN A CLAIM FORM:**

- Call the Department of Sustainability and Environment on 136 186
- Visit [www.water.vic.gov.au](http://www.water.vic.gov.au)
- Contact your local water supplier
- Ask a water saving product retailer

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:**

Water Efficient Labelling and Standards Scheme (WELS)

→ [www.waterrating.gov.au](http://www.waterrating.gov.au)

Building rating for new homes

→ [www.buildingcommission.com.au](http://www.buildingcommission.com.au)

PIC certificates

→ [www.pic.vic.gov.au](http://www.pic.vic.gov.au)

Environment Protection Authority

→ [www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au)

Smart Approved WaterMark

→ [www.smartwatermark.org](http://www.smartwatermark.org)

Energy Efficient Labelling and Standards Scheme

→ [www.energyrating.gov.au](http://www.energyrating.gov.au)

Watermark and Certification of Standards

→ [www.waterrating.gov.au/watermark](http://www.waterrating.gov.au/watermark)

→ [www.watermark.standards.org.au](http://www.watermark.standards.org.au)

Rainwater tank certification

→ [www.jas-anz.com.au](http://www.jas-anz.com.au)

→ <http://register.saiglobal.com/Default.aspx>

Rainwater Harvesting Association of Australia

→ [www.arid.asn.au](http://www.arid.asn.au)

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