

# Save Our Water... in your pool

## IN YOUR POOL

With an ongoing drought affecting water supplies on the Central Coast and around Australia, external use of town water may currently be heavily restricted or banned altogether. For further information on current water restrictions, please contact your local Council.

By following a few simple tips and using alternate water sources, you can still maintain your pool during the drought.

## POOL COVERS

A pool cover can reduce evaporation in your pool by up to 90%. Evaporation occurs mainly at night when the air temperature drops below the temperature of the pool.

By reducing evaporation you not only save water (up to 1.5m per year in some areas) you will also save on the cost of chemicals, as you won't have to rebalance your pool after topping up as often and you will reduce the amount of chlorine lost to the sun's UV rays.

A pool cover will also help to keep your pool clear of debris, by up to 90% depending on the level of use. Most pool cleaners will also work well underneath a cover.

It will also keep your pool warmer, reducing heating costs and extending the swimming season. If your pool is in a sunny position, a pool cover can increase your pool's temperature by up to 8 degrees.



## SOME TIPS FOR USING A POOL COVER INCLUDE:

- Have it properly fitted to increase efficiency.
- Consider purchasing a roller for ease of use and storage.
- Don't superchlorinate while the pool cover is on.
- Don't leave the cover on the lawn as it may damage the cover or burn the lawn if left too long.
- Salt chlorinators and automatic chlorine dosers should be run at a reduced rate if the cover is on for extended periods.

## TOPPING UP

Under water restrictions you may not be permitted to top up or refill your pool with town water and should consider the use of alternate water supplies such as rainwater tanks, bore water or down pipe diverters.

Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council both provide rebates on rainwater tanks, for further information contact your local council.

## NEW POOLS

If current restrictions do not permit filling of pools from the town water supply, you will need to check to see if your installer has a permit to use town water under 'water banking' arrangements with the local Council, or access to an alternative supply.

When designing your new pool, consider incorporating simple ideas like beach swim out areas or rolled edges to stop water loss through splashing.