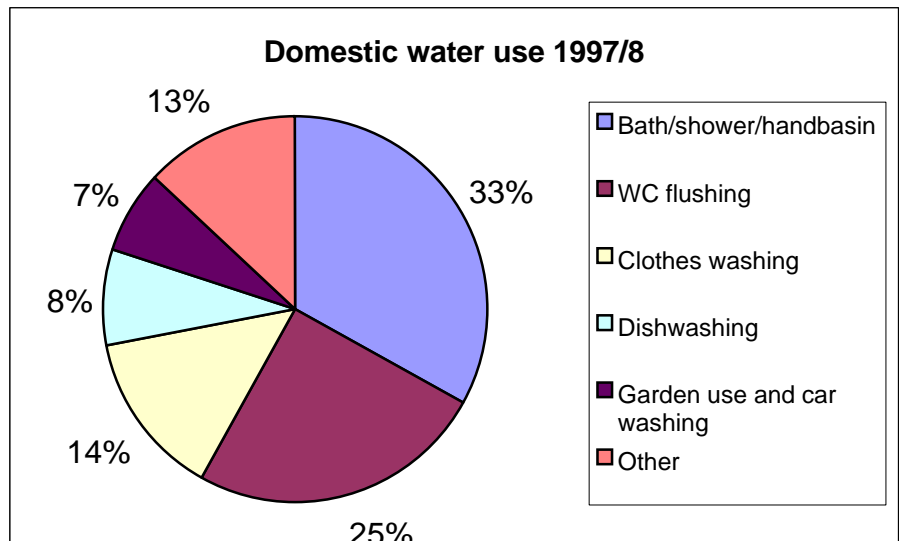


Water, Water Everywhere !

Here in the UK we use hundreds of litres of water everyday and take it very much for granted. As you can see from the graph we send a quarter of it straight down the toilet and use a third of it for bathing. The average UK consumption of water is 140 litres a day per head. (*Environmental Health Jan 1998*)

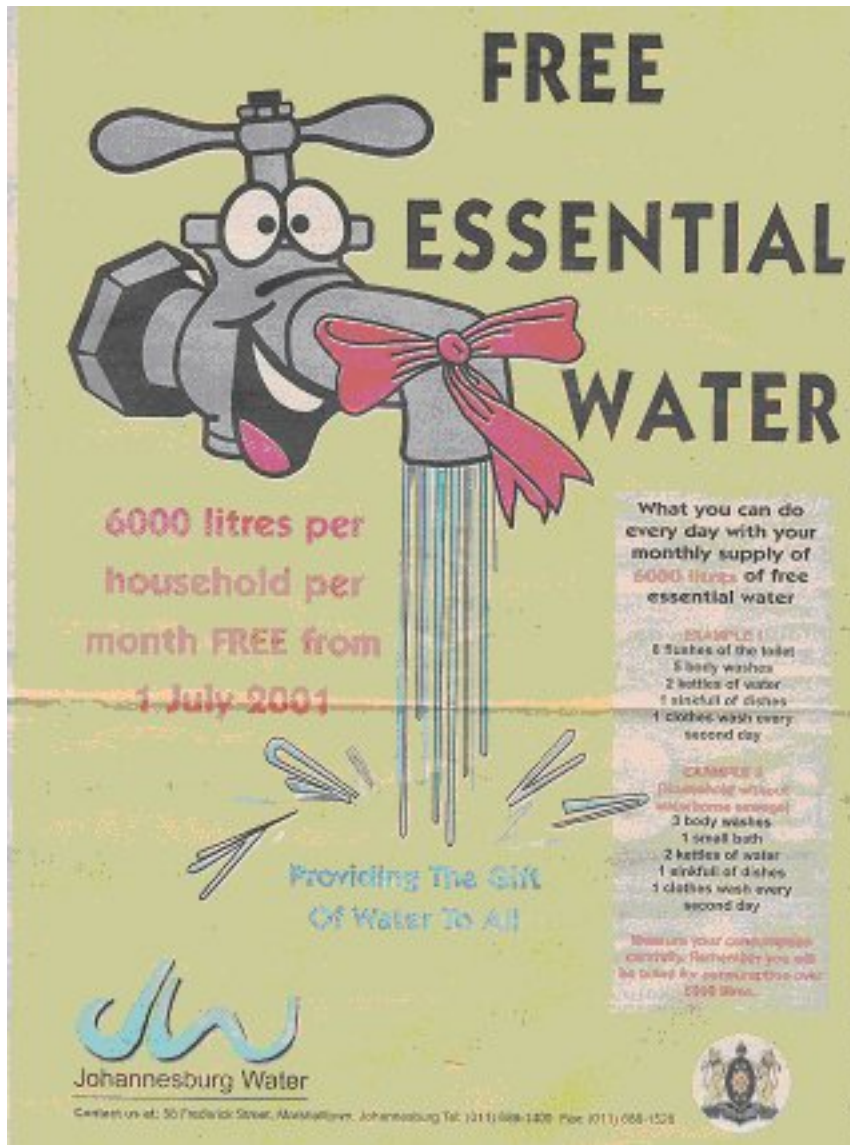


Use the following table (provided by Severn-Trent water) to work out how much water your household would use (i) per year (ii) per month.
NB 1 cubic metre = 1000 litres

your water use	your calculation	your annual use (cubic metres)
How many people live in your house? Multiply this by 15 to estimate your annual water use for cooking, drinking, washing up, personal hygiene Baths and showers are not included	x 15	
How many baths a week does your household take in total? Multiply this by 6 to estimate your annual household use for baths	x 6	
How many showers a week does your household take in total? Multiply this by 2 to estimate your annual household use for showers	x 2	
How many times a day is your toilet flushed? Multiply this by 35 to estimate your annual toilet use	x 3.5	
How many times a week do you use a washing machine? Multiply this by 6 to estimate your annual household washing machine use	x 6	
How many times a week do you use a dishwasher? Multiply this by 2 to estimate your annual household dishwasher use	x 2	
How often do you use a garden sprinkler or hosepipe? Multiply the number of days use by the number of hours use each day Sprinklers use about 1 cubic metre an hour	x 1	
Do you have a swimming pool? Estimate how many cubic metres you use each year filling it or topping it up		
Add up the figures in the right hand column to estimate the annual water use for your household.		

On 1st July 2001 millions of South Africans received their first ever allocation of 6000 litres of free water per month. This follows a promise made by the South African government to help poorer people in their country. However those people who use over the 6000 litres a month will have to pay more than they used to for it.

The following advertisement appeared in the *Sowetan Sunday World* newspaper on July 1st and gave some examples of how the water could be used.



Discuss and decide what your priorities would be if you and your household were limited to 6000 litres a month or 200 litres a day.

Will different people in the household have different priorities?

What changes would you have to make to your lifestyle?

On the following page are links to websites that will give you a lot more information on the subject of water.

Look at these websites to find out more about water supplies around the world:

<http://www.cnn.com/2000/NATURE/10/05/environment.water.reut/>

<http://www.ratical.org/co-globalize/waterCrisis.html>

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/mwater.html>

<http://www.worldwater.org/>

Try putting ‘Water water everywhere’ into the Google search engine for access to loads more great web sites.

e.g. <http://www.beesinc.org/resource/currenha/curewate.htm>

A calculator for you to work out your household’s water consumption can be found at: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/629/629/5086298.stm