

## HOW TO LOOK AFTER OUR CATCHMENT

There are things that we can all do to protect our catchments and our water supply so that we have a reliable supply now and into the future. We all drink the water our

catchments provide. Here are some ways you can help protect our catchment:

- Wash the car on the grass
- Use less water
- Wash paint brushes in an old tin rather than under the running tap
- Don't pour oil or grease down the sink – put it in a container and then in the bin
- Use organic pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers
- Put your grass clippings and food scraps on the compost heap
- Water the garden in the cool part of the day (always check the current level of water restrictions)

Good water quality is a sign of a healthy catchment. Using

### SAVE WATER TO PROTECT OUR CATCHMENT

less water is one way in which everyone can contribute to healthy catchments and rivers. By reducing the amount of water we use, we reduce the need to build expensive new water supply infrastructure such as dams, reservoirs and pipelines. Reducing the amount of water we all use can also help make more water available

for environmental flows, which protect the health of the rivers downstream of the catchment infrastructure. The need to manage demand for water is reflected in Wide Bay Water's Operating Licence and Drought Management Plan.



### LIVING OR WORKING AROUND OUR CATCHMENTS

If you live or work around our catchments you play a key role in helping to keep our catchments healthy. Some of the ways you can help include:

- Managing on-site sewage systems effectively
- Encouraging and developing improved sewage and stormwater management systems
- Retaining and planting vegetation to prevent erosion and soil loss
- Controlling weeds, pests and livestock
- Using chemicals efficiently and carefully
- Protecting stream bank vegetation to provide a buffer against pollution
- Preventing bushfires
- Reporting spills