

BLUE DESIGNS ARCHITECTURE

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Blue Designs Newsletter

September 2023



How to Save Water

Our reservoirs are running low, this is partly due to lack of rainfall during winter, but is mainly due to loadshedding. There is simply not enough time for the pumps to feed the reservoirs from the dams. Johannesburg has been on level one water restrictions for some time now, but there is talk of further restrictions in the future.

1. Fix those leaks. A leaky tap can waste thousands of gallons of water a month...



2. Water your garden in the early mornings and evenings. This limits the evaporation due to the hot sun. Also use a mulch around your plants, plant waterwise and indigenous plants and use a watering can rather than a hose pipe.

3. Sweep your driveway rather than using water to hose away leaves and dirt.

4. Wash your car on the lawn, also consider using buckets rather than a hose pipe.

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5. Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth.

6. Take a quick shower rather than having a bath.

7. Fill up your washing machine and dishwasher before using them.



8. Insulate your hot water pipes. it will take less water to give you hot water out of the tap.

9. "If it's yellow let it mellow, if it's brown flush it down." Try only to flush the toilet only when necessary.

10. Put a 500ml water bottle with pebbles at the bottom and topped up with water in your toilet tank. Less water will be used to flush.

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11. Recycle your water from your bath, bathroom basin and shower. It is relatively easy to divert the water waste pipes into the garden.

12. Install a rainwater catchment tank. This water when filtered is suitable for drinking.



13. Install a pool cover, this will help stop water evaporating from your pool. It will also limit algae growth and stop debris from going in the water. Your pool should stay blue for longer.

14. If your budget allows add a septic tank with a biomite reactor. Your black water from the toilet and kitchen sink can be used to water the garden and wash your car.

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Blue Designs was established in 2004 by Claire Cardwell. I specialise in residential architecture, both new builds and renovations. I have also worked on many heritage homes. I have great contacts at Johannesburg City Council and know what it takes to get your plans approved. I can make your dreams a reality.



Call Claire on 082 399 0180
Email - bluedesigns5@gmail.com
Website - www.bluedesigns.org

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