WATER EFFICIENCY

Features have been incorporated into the design of the Sustainable Lifestyle House to allow greater day-to-day water efficiency for the occupant. Achieving water efficiencies in domestic households is becoming much easier. The Sustainable Lifestyle House has installed the most efficient taps and fixtures possible, whilst maintaining quality products and expected water pressure.

The Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS) is the star-rating scheme for water appliances and fixtures. A WELS label shows two key pieces of information to allow product comparison – star rating (from one to six) and water consumption (for dishwashers, washing machines and toilets) or water flow per minute (for taps and showerheads). More stars means it is more efficient and lower numbers means reduced water consumption!

Taps
All the taps fitted in the house are Casa Lusso Lever 5-star WELS rated taps by Caroma. Flow is restricted to 6 litres per minute whilst still maintaining ideal water pressure.

Greywater treatment system
A NovaGrey DGTS 1100 litre wastewater treatment system has been installed to capture all wastewater from the laundry, shower and sink. This system treats the water to a grade that is safe for reuse in the vegetable garden. On a larger site with suitable land available for irrigation, this system could be used to treat all the waste water from the house.

To comply with local planning policy, the system is approved by NSW Health and is connected via pipes to the vegetable garden. Excess water generated flows into the sewer system.

Showerheads
The showers are 3-star WELS rated Caroma Liano Rail shower which use 9 litres per minute. The rail shower is a height adjustable shower with four spray patterns, combining water savings without compromising on performance.

Included in this fact sheet:
• Dishwasher
• Water Tank
• Irrigation System
• Taps
• Toilets
• Showerheads
• Greywater treatment system
• Semi-permeable Paving
WATER EFFICIENCY

Toilets
The toilets fitted are 5-star WELS rated Caroma Profile 5 Toilet Suites, with an integrated hand basin. 5-star toilets use 4.5 litres for a full flush and 3 litres for a half flush.

These toilets save water by allowing the same water to be used for two distinct purposes. When users flush the toilet, a tap on the top of the cistern lets water flow, allowing the user to wash their hands. This water then flows into the cistern to be used to flush the toilet next time.

Water Tank
Under the western patio is a 50,000L Concrete Seamless Tanks rainwater tank. All water collected from the roof is collected to be used for toilet flushing, in the laundry and in the garden irrigation system. Any excess water flows to Council’s stormwater drainage system. A 50 litres per minute Dominator pump ensures that external water needs are not compromised.

Irrigation system
The lawns and garden beds are watered by an automatic irrigation system. This allows for the garden to be watered during the night and early morning, reducing evaporation. During winter or wetter periods, the irrigation system is easily switched off until it is needed again.

Semi-permeable Paving
The paving surrounding the northerly end of the house is semi-permeable, which allows for a portion of the rainwater to penetrate into the underlying earth. This means that soil moisture can be retained and further reduce the need for watering of lawns and gardens.

Dishwasher
Dishwashers are increasingly being installed in sustainable houses and they as now at levels of energy and water efficiency that they can compare with the consumption of hand washing, whilst freeing up occupants for more family time. A Fisher and Paykel 4-star WELS and 3.5-star energy rated dishwasher has been installed in the kitchen of the Sustainable Lifestyle House.

Suppliers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suppliers</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toilet Showerheads</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dishwasher</td>
<td>Retravision Bathurst, NSW</td>
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Disclaimer: Bathurst Regional Council is not endorsing products and services contained herein and holds no responsibility for any errors in information. All care has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information.