

## MPAQ

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### How To Save \$\$\$ As Water Price Rises:

With the increase in the price of water set to hit home and business owners on July 1 The Master Plumbers Association (MPAQ) says conserving water has become paramount. On Monday the State Government revealed average household bills across the region would rise from \$483 a year to \$750 a year over the next five years to pay off its \$9 billion water grid.

Rising council water charges, soaring capital costs, inflation and interest rates have all been blamed for the blowout in the price of turning on the tap. MPAQ President Bob Kimlin says the price hike an unwelcome but necessary price hike.

The government should have built the necessary infrastructure to secure the water supply decades ago, but we need the water grid and unfortunately householders will have to pay for the cost of building it". Mr Kimlin says both domestic and commercial users can still save themselves money on water rates by ensuring that water saving devices are fitted properly.

"MPAQ members have a wealth of experience in the implementation of such programs and also have the flexibility of being able to assist with Government and Council rebates. In areas such as dual flush toilets and grey water systems it is important from both a water saving and public health perspective that they be fitted properly."

"Water wise usage has been at the forefront of our members training for many years now. Also the working relationship that we have with many of the manufacturers ensures that we're able to access the most up to date technology, as well as provide input into future designs." Mr Kimlin says consumers should also be aware of the legality of devices they fit to their homes.

"Just as there are legal guidelines controlling the way plumbers do their work, there's also legal guidelines controlling the products they install. All plumbing fixtures and fittings must meet stringent manufacturing guidelines before they are approved for use in Australia. This ensures they actually do what they promise to do without causing harm." Mr Kimlin says there's an anomaly in the law, which means retailers, can in fact legally sell devices that are not approved but a qualified plumber will be fined if they install it.

“That’s why it’s always best to seek a fully licensed master plumber to do your plumbing work. They know what is legal and what is not and will ensure the health and safety of your family.

**For further information contact:**

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