

Watermarks

reflections on the water history and culture of Orange and district

The importance of water in the world

- In one drop of water there are about 5 billion molecules
- Water is two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen hence H₂O
- Water is the best of all the cleansing agents known to man
- Water boils at 100° Celsius
- Water freezes at 0° Celsius
- Only 3% of the earth's water can be used as drinking water
- It takes 4 litres of water to produce a bottle of beer
- The average home uses 230kl of water per year or 63 buckets of water per day
- AAA rated shower heads can save the average household more than 25kl of water every year
- Only 12% of our rainfall collects in river basins. The rest is used by vegetation, evaporates or is held in natural storages such as lakes, wetlands and aquifers.
- Australia has nearly 450 dams
- Australia is the driest continent
- 82% of the total annual usage of water comes from surface water, the other 18% is from groundwater
- There is no new water; water on Earth is constantly recycled due to what is known as the 'water cycle'.
- The planet's supply is constantly moving from sea, to clouds, to rain, to earth and back again
- 75% of the earth is covered with water
- 97% of the earth's water is in the oceans
- Some 1.1 billion people or 18% of the world's population lack access to safe drinking water
- Hippocrates, known as the father of medicine, directed people in Greece to boil and strain water before drinking
- Ancient Egyptians treated water by siphoning water out of the top of huge jars after allowing the muddy water from the Nile River to settle
- 66% of the human body is water
- 75% of the human brain is water
- You can survive only 5-7 days without water
- 75% of a living tree is water
- A kilo of clean wool requires 170, 000 litres of water
- It takes 41,500 litres of water to produce a kilo of meat
- It takes 715 - 750 litres to produce a kilo of wheat
- It takes 500 litres to produce one orange
- It takes 5,000 litres of water to produce one kilo of rice
- Soybeans require 1650 to produce a kilo of dry beans
- 10 minutes of hosing uses around 200 litres of water
- Gardens account for 23% of household water usage