



# GROW YOUR OWN FOOD

## WATER WISE GARDENING

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### WHAT IS WATER WISE GARDENING?

It simply means using the available water effectively and efficiently.

You should aim to use rainfall as the primary source of water for your garden and add other sources such as tank water, grey water or mains (town) water.

### WHAT IS THE EASIEST WAY TO MAKE MY GARDEN WATER WISE?

There are many factors, but the best way to start is just follow a few simple rules:

**Rule 1**

Water deeply and less often.

**Rule 2**

Use an appropriate mulch on your garden beds (see fact sheet: Mulch).

**Rule 3**

Group plants with similar water requirements together.

**Rule 4**

Water in the morning or evening.

**Rule 5**

Keep weeds to a minimum.

### WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

Using a rain gauge is an excellent way to make sure you water only when required to maintain a happy and thriving garden.

Remember – overwatering can be just as detrimental to your plants as a lack of water.



### TICKNER'S TIP

Michael Tickner, Adv Cert Hort (read Michael's profile at [www.chw.net.au](http://www.chw.net.au))

“Maintaining a healthy soil (see fact sheet: Healthy soil) will also help keep your plants healthy by giving them the best conditions for growth. Your plants can then use the available water as efficiently and effectively as possible. That's water wise.”

If you have any questions about water wise gardening, ask your nursery professional for advice.

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[chw.net.au/gyof](http://chw.net.au/gyof)