

# WHY WATER IS REGULATED IN FORESTRY?

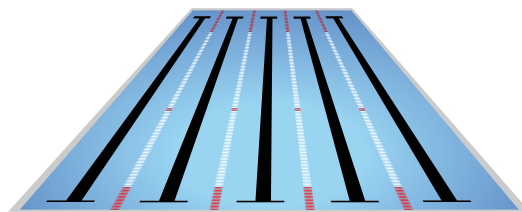


Annually forestry uses

**428 MILLION**  
cubic metres of water!

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This sounds like a lot and it is!  
It's enough to fill

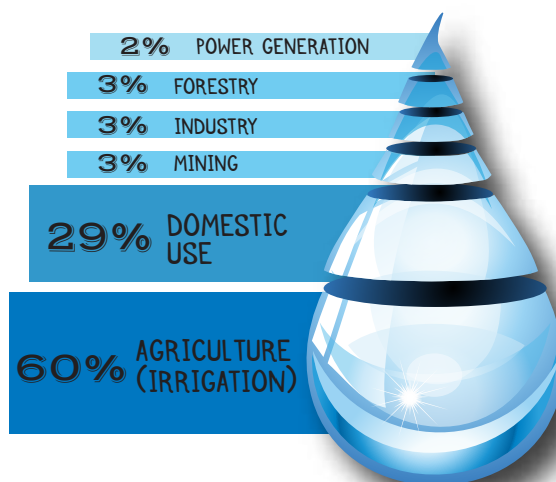


**171,200**  
Olympic swimming pools.

But when you place it in the context of the total water used each year in South Africa by all sectors and users,  
**12,871 million cubic metres.**

Forestry is a small player:

Accounting for around **3%** of South Africa's **WATER USAGE.**



## ANY WATER SAVING IS IMPORTANT

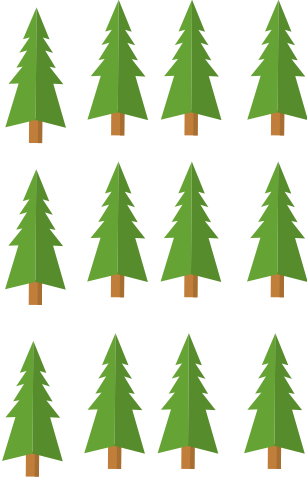
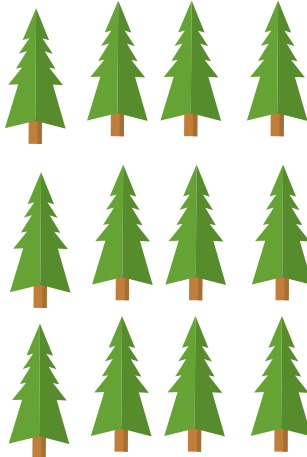
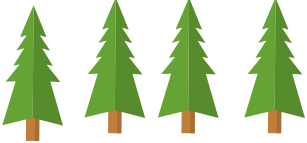


Of the available water we already use **98%**

450mm rainfall annually  
**SOUTH AFRICA = 30<sup>th</sup>**  
driest country in the world  
**350mm LESS**  
than global average.



# HOW IS WATER REGULATED IN FORESTRY?

	BEFORE 1972	NATIONAL FOREST ACT (AS AMENDED)	NATIONAL WATER ACT 1998
WHAT	No Regulation.	Permit System.	Water Use Licences.
WHY	LITTLE CONCERN about converting grassland to forestry.	INCREASING CONCERN over forestry's impact on stream flow and water catchments.	Water became property of the State.  Water can only be used under licence, with water being allocated to users.
			
IMPACT	Direct loss of wetlands.  Changes to water catchment due to reduced stream flow.	New plantations required planting permits.  Wetlands could no longer be planted or drained.	Registration of all water users.  Vast reduction in the number of new plantations.  Implemented a water resource management charge.  (Calculated per hectare and based on average water use).