



A camel is brought in for foot surgery at the Dubai Camel Hospital in Dubai

Hospital for camels

Dubai

Pristine operating theatres and state-of-the-art medical equipment are featured in a new Dubai hospital that opened last week - exclusively for camels.

Camels remain an important part of the Gulf Arab state's heritage. Camel races and camel beauty pageants are a favourite recreation for locals, and some beasts fetch millions of dollars at auctions in the country.

Preserving that heritage is part of the purpose of Dubai Camel Hospital, which cost 40 million dirhams (\$10.9 million) and is the first of its kind in the world, said Mohamed Al Bulooshi, the hospital's director.

"We found that we must care for camels not only by breeding and

raising them, but also by being able to medically treat them," Bulooshi said.

Staffed by a team of international veterinarians, the hospital can treat 20 camels. It's also equipped with a mini-race track to get the camels up and running after their medical procedures.

Its customized equipment was adapted from equestrian medical equipment to accommodate camel treatment. A surgery starts at \$1,000 and an X-ray or ultrasound at \$110.

The hospital intends to help in the research and development of camel medicine, Ahsan Ul Haq, the facility's head of marketing and finance, in an effort "to unfold the secrets of this strange desert animal," he said. (Reuters)

Thinking green

Rehan Ahmed



Using & Conserving Hot Water

Water is a basic commodity and is heavily subsidized in the country, due to which its use and misuse is increasing. We are not conserving water, particularly due to lack of awareness. Though the Government is continuing their efforts in finding ways and means to enhance water production, thus people should also do actions to reduce their water consumption.

Approximately sixty percent of total household water supply is used inside the home in kitchen, bathroom and laundry. Considerable quantity of water is consumed in watering the lawn, maintaining greenery, plants and washing cars. Since this activity is mostly done by the servants or maids, they are more extravagant in the use. More sprinkling of water does not mean more cleaning is accomplished.

With the drop in temperatures and persisting cold weather, use of hot water at home, offices, commercial centers, educational buildings and institutions have increased many folds.

In winter, heating water for showers, laundry and washing

makes up more than a third of an average household's water and energy use, so it is important to heat water efficiently and conserve the water and energy.

The main areas of hot water usage in homes are bathroom and kitchen. Bathing consume up to 200 liters of hot water, depending on the duration of bath and type of shower head. Laundry consumes hot water. A standard warm cycle on a top loading washing machine may use up to 50 liters of hot water.

The amount of hot water used in the kitchen depends on how we wash our utensils. For dishes washed by hand in a sink full of water will typically use around 10 liters of hot water.

The main hot water wastage is when we open the tap and wait for hot water to come which goes to the drain. The other aspect is leakage in water equipment and piping. A tap dripping at one drop per second wastes 800 liters of water per month.

With the new water tariff implemented, there is a strong need that all residents and organizations sincerely initiate to reduce our energy and water usage leading to

conserving our resources thereby reducing the costs. Since past decades we have been very extravagant with the use of our precious resources like fuel, energy and water but this is the high time that we take these aspects very seriously, not only to save our money but to save our resources and environment.

Here are a few tips to reduce our hot water wastage and for conserving water:

- Turning the hot water faucet off while shaving or brushing your teeth.
- Using low-flow faucets and showerheads.
- Ensure geyser, washing machine and dish washers are of right capacity based on number of users.
- Install the equipment close to the point of use to minimize heat loss in pipes like putting geyser in kitchen and bathroom.
- Pre-rinse the dirty dishes using cold water, or scrape them clean before putting them in the dishwasher.
- Use washing machine and dishwasher only when full.
- Do not waste water when you open the hot water tap, collect this water in a bucket and use it for some other purposes like cleaning and watering plants.

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