

Media Release



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Hydrants cleared as Western Water readies for fire season in Macedon Ranges

Western Water, in conjunction with Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Macedon CFA, will overhaul all fire hydrants at Macedon this month – and Mount Macedon and Woodend will be next.

Managing Director John Wilkinson said early warnings of another dangerous fire season were driving Western Water, along with all agencies, to have emergency management infrastructure operating at their optimum.

“All hydrants in Macedon have been inspected to make sure they can be easily located, they are easily visible with correct markings and there are no impediments to accessing them in case of a fire,” Mr Wilkinson said.

“Once we have gone through Macedon, Western Water will start tackling hydrants in Mount Macedon and Woodend with Macedon Ranges Shire Council and then Bulla with Hume Council and Darley with Moorabool Council.”

Mr Wilkinson said Western Water, as the agency responsible for maintaining hydrants, has instigated a new system of continuous upgrade in conjunction with councils, which are responsible for funding the provision of hydrants in their municipalities.

“We will tackle all higher fire risk areas first and, as funds become available, work across all Western Water’s region.”

Macedon CFA Captain Greg Snart said the new maintenance regime was an important initiative in maintaining a state of preparedness for fire at all times of the year.

“It is vital that hydrants and access points to fire-fighting water are kept clear and maintained so the CFA can get in there and do their job,” Capt Snart said.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council’s Fire Management Officer Stan Wilson said adopting a consistent procedure for hydrant maintenance would help all emergency planning agencies.

“Being able to access hydrants and get water out of them quickly in an emergency will save lives and property,” Mr Wilson said.

Residents who are concerned about the state of their local fire hydrants can contact **Western Water** on **1300 650 422**.

About Western Water

Western Water is one of Victoria’s 13 regional urban water corporations. We provide water, recycled water and sewerage services to over 53,000 properties and 134,810 people in an area of 3,000 square kilometres. Our region extends from Lancefield in the north to Melton and Rockbank in the south and from Myrning in the west to Bulla in the east. We incorporate parts of Hume City Council and Melton, Moorabool and Macedon Ranges Shire Councils.

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