

# Media Release



Wednesday, 30 September, 2009

## Water-smart town puts Western Water in line for sustainability award

Western Water will take the stage along with other finalists in the annual savewater! sustainability awards in Sydney next Friday, October 9.

“The savewater! Alliance oversees Australia’s leading water sustainability awards each year to acknowledge the many ways innovation and best practice help us all live more sustainably and in tune with our environment,” Managing Director John Wilkinson said.

“These awards showcase signature projects and performance in water conservation across Australia in the lead-up to National Water Week, October 18 to 24.”

Mr Wilkinson said Western Water is a finalist in the Water Business category of the savewater! awards for its work in smart-water urban development at Eynesbury in Melton South. It is contending with two New South Wales’ finalists MidCoast Water and Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, and is among 31 national finalists in nine award categories, selected from more than 700 national and international entries.

“Our award submission highlights drinking water savings achieved through the development of water-smart housing and provision of recycled water for residential use to the water-smart community of Eynesbury Township,” Mr Wilkinson said.

“Eynesbury is showing the real value of water-smart design and construction in building a sustainable urban landscape.

Mr Wilkinson said Western Water’s smart-water solutions have evolved from the need to supply water in an environment constrained by thirteen years of drought.

“Our community has grasped the reality of drought and, so far, Western Water customers have proved to be among the best in the state at cutting their water use.

“Ongoing close liaison with local councils and community groups has aided in the attempt to bring the water message home to people in direct and practical ways,” he said.

Within Western Water’s community there have been two other finalists for the savewater! awards — the Ecolinc Science and Technology Innovations Centre at Bacchus Marsh in the Education Institutions award category and an entry by a Bacchus Marsh College student in the annual photographic award.

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### 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.

### Media contacts

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Mr Wilkinson said a judging panel of 21 water industry experts from all over the world and headed by well-known environmental consultant Rob Gell had selected the 31 finalists from 700 entries to this year's big event on October 9.

"And, during Water Week itself, Western Water will celebrate with its communities the many positive and engaging ways its works locally to make the water environment better," he said.

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