

Media Release



July 29 2010

Vandals hit Macedon reservoir

Police are investigating a break-in at Western Water's Frank Mann reservoir in Macedon.

Western Water is urging the public to report anyone acting suspiciously around local reservoirs after a one square metre hole was found in the fence surrounding the reservoir.

"The fence was vandalised shortly before a regular inspection on July 20, when the hole was found," Western Water's managing director, John Wilkinson, said.

"We take the safety of our drinking water supplies extremely seriously, and have stepped up surveillance in the area as a result of this incident."

Western Water staff have inspected the site and no further damage was found.

"Police were called immediately when the break-in was discovered, and we will not hesitate to prosecute whoever did this if they are found," Mr Wilkinson said.

"This person or people are liable to be prosecuted for both trespass and criminal damage, and fines of up to \$1000 apply."

Mr Wilkinson said catchments were restricted for a reason, and anyone entering a closed catchment area, despite warning signs, was hurting their whole community.

"Water is a resource that everyone shares, and we need to maintain the high quality of our water. The financial cost of damage to fences and equipment is also a concern."

People who witness others breaking into reservoir areas or any water infrastructure assets in the region are urged to record number plates of any vehicles involved and report the incident immediately to Western Water on 1300 650 422.

ends

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

Kylie Smith | Media Advisor | 03 9218 5527 | 0488 22 66 81 | kylie.smith@westernwater.com.au