

Media Release



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Water Week time for a peek behind the scenes

When you turn on the tap during National Water Week, stop and think about the huge effort it takes to bring safe, clean water to your home.

That's the message from Western Water, which is planning to spend \$220 million over the next five years on infrastructure to ensure residents have safe, clean drinking water, and effective sewerage.

The theme of this year's National Water Week, which runs from October 17 to 23, is "Water – Australia's most precious resource".

"Our residents understand that water is precious – they are among the lowest water users in the state," Western Water's General Manager, Sustainability, Rob Franklin, says.

"What they may not understand is that it takes a huge amount of effort and technology to bring that resource to people's homes and businesses.

"We maintain more than 1740km of drinking water pipes – that's about the equivalent of the distance from Melbourne to Brisbane," Mr Franklin says.

"We also look after 56 drinking water storage tanks, seven filtration plants and pumping stations that pump the water to people's homes."

During Water Week, Western Water will also process 153 million litres of sewage at its seven recycled water plants across the region, equivalent to the volume of about 60 Olympic swimming pools.

"Transporting this raw sewage safely and processing it to produce recycled water and biosolids is a job that requires expertise and modern facilities," Mr Franklin says.

"The revenue we raise from customer service charges goes towards ensuring this infrastructure keeps pace with our growing population and breakthroughs in technology."

As summer approaches, it is also a good time for people to reassess their water-saving measures, and look at what more they can do to conserve water.

"There are a range of government rebates still available for water-saving devices such as rainwater tanks, greywater systems and dual-flush toilets," Mr Franklin says.

"Western Water is also offering a free showerhead exchange, and low-cost WaterTight visits to customers for water conservation advice and minor leak repairs."

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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.

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