

Media Release



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Western Water cleaning job in the pipeline

They may be underground and out of sight, but your water mains still need a clean from time to time.

Riddells Creek is the latest town in Western Water's service area to have its water mains cleaned, starting in late October, and continuing for about a month.

"We need to turn the water off temporarily in each street as we work our way through the town, but each business and home will be notified individually by letter in the days prior to the work," Western Water's Managing Director, John Wilkinson, says.

"We have tried to minimise the inconvenience as much as possible, for example, by working at night in areas where there are businesses, and during the day in residential areas when people are less likely to be home."

Mr Wilkinson says the mains in Riddells Creek have not been cleaned for about ten years, as during the drought water conservation was a priority.

"What we are cleaning out is just very fine sediment that settles to the bottom of the pipe, and doesn't generally have any effect on the safety or quality of the water," he says.

The cleaning process involves injecting compressed air into the pipe to stir up the sediment, then flushing the turbulent water out.

"After their mains have been cleaned people may find the water from their tap is cloudy, or tastes a bit 'earthy'," Mr Wilkinson says.

"The cloudiness is just residual air – if you leave the water in a jug or glass for a few minutes, the air will bubble out leaving the water clear. The taste will settle down fairly quickly."

Riddells Creek residents who want more information can call Western Water on 1300 650 425.

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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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