

Media Release



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Buckets of awareness for Water Week

AS National Water Week approaches, Western Water is planning to raise awareness – and money – with a race to keep dry.

Managers, cheered on by staff, will run a course while carrying buckets of water on their heads, with the person who loses the least water winning.

Money raised by staff during the week will be matched by Western Water and donated to Water Aid, a charity that helps provide safe water and sanitation to some of the world's poorest communities.

The race is designed to highlight the fact that many people in developing nations are forced to carry water long distances, or only have access to water that is unsafe.

"We are having some fun with Water Week, but the message is a very serious one for people in developing countries," Western Water's Managing Director, John Wilkinson, says.

"Getting clean, healthy drinking water is not just a case of turning on a tap for them, as it is for us."

Closer to home, the Australian Water Association is using Water Week to encourage people to take action to protect the health of their local catchments.

"There are lots of things that can be done to protect local catchments and water quality, such as planting native vegetation and keeping farm animals away from river and stream banks," Mr Wilkinson says.

For more information about WaterAid, or to donate, go to www.wateraid.org/australia. Water Week is from October 16 to 22. Information about Water Week can be found at www.nationalwaterweek.org.au.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:

Western Water managers can be photographed this week practising their bucket-carrying skills at Western Water head office, 36 Macedon St, Sunbury. To arrange a time please call Kylie Smith on 0488 226 681.

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