

# Sunbury Recycled Water Plant Upgrade

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IN THE  
COMMUNITY

The upgrade to the Sunbury Recycled Water Plant is progressing well with Stage One construction due to be complete within the next three months. Stage Two will commence shortly after and take approximately 12 months.

## What has been happening on site?

As part of Stage One works, Downer have been busy completing and testing the membrane tank and inlet works. Structures for the UV channel and switchroom have also been completed.

The construction of the odour control facility has begun and is expected to be finished by July. The odour control facility is coloured olive green to blend in with the natural environment and minimise visual impact. The odour dispersion stack, which is part of the control facility, will stand around 28m tall and is tapered from 1100 mm diameter at the bottom to 570 mm diameter at the top.

Equipment deliveries to the site are almost complete. Residents may notice a small number of trucks delivering pipes and other equipment until mid-year.

## What's next?

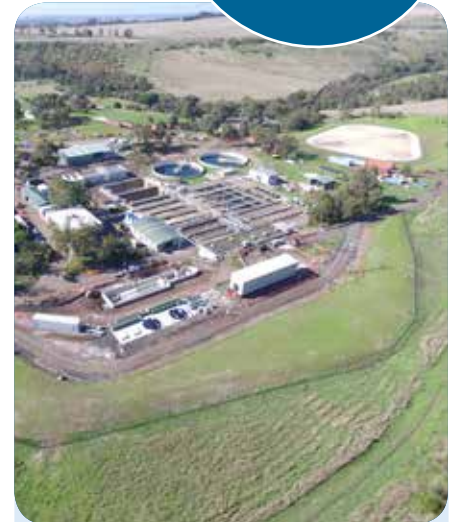
Stage One works are expected to be complete within the next few months followed by a brief period of equipment testing in September.

Stage Two will commence later this year and include refurbishment of

some existing tanks and storm flow management.

## Working hours

Construction is expected to be busy up until at least the end of the year with work hours being 7am – 6pm Monday to Friday and 7am – 4pm Saturdays. You may notice staff accessing the site outside of these hours to maintain/operate the plant or pick up materials to fix burst pipes or other infrastructure.



## IN THIS UPDATE

- Membrane tank, inlet works, UV channel and switchroom now complete.
- Stage One testing expected to be complete by September.
- Profile: Biosolids dewatering facility.
- Beautifying Jacksons Creek with tree planting.



Testing of new membrane tanks (top).  
Construction of inlet works (above).

## HOW TO STAY INFORMED

Let us know if you'd like to be added to the contact list for the Sunbury RWP Upgrade Project:

Mail: PO Box 2371, Sunbury DC Vic 3429

Phone: 1300 650 422

Email: [majorprojects@westernwater.com.au](mailto:majorprojects@westernwater.com.au)

## Profile: Biosolids dewatering facility

### What is a dewatering facility?

Dewatering is the removal of water/liquid from solid material.

The dewatering facility at the Sunbury RWP removes water from biosolids produced during the treatment process by use of a filter belt press and centrifuge.

Biosolids are the semi-solid organic products separated from sewage.



New centrifuge

### Is this a new facility/process for Sunbury RWP?

The existing dewatering facility is being expanded to cater for the increased biosolids expected at the plant. The upgrade of the dewatering facility will be completed within the existing building and will involve the addition of a centrifuge.

The centrifuge will separate the liquid from solids using centrifugal acceleration—much like the spin cycle of a washing machine.

### How does it work?

The first step in dewatering is for biosolids to go through the existing filter belt press, where they are squeezed between two belts to reduce moisture content.

The second stage is the centrifuge, where biosolids are spun very quickly to reduce the final water content to a range of 15–18 per cent.



Existing belt press

The biosolids are then put into bins to be trucked away for further treatment and reuse as a soil improver.

### Why is it important to remove water from biosolids?

Reducing the water content of biosolids makes them easier and safer to handle. It also reduces transportation costs as the volume and weight being transported is reduced.

### What happens to the liquid removed in the dewatering process?

The liquid removed from the biosolids through the dewatering process is sent back into the overall treatment process.

## Beautifying Jacksons Creek

### Partnership with Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority

Western Water will be working closely with Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (PPW CMA) to plant around 2000 trees at the site over the coming months.

A community planting day has been organised by Western Water for mid-July involving Salesian College students, local environment groups and the Sunbury Lions Club.

The planting is part of a broader project along the Jacksons Creek corridor.

The project is funded by a state government grant and involves the PPW CMA establishing a nature link along Jacksons Creek through tree

planting and pest plant and animal control. The aim is to improve native vegetation and support animal populations such as the Growling Grass Frog, Swift Parrot and Platypus.

### Downer landscape planting

Downer will also be planting native trees such as the Grey Box (Eucalyptus) at the site later this year.

This tree planting will provide habitat for birds and other wildlife as well as help to screen the plant.

### Get involved

If you would like to help with planting along Jacksons Creek, please contact Western Water's Senior Engagement Advisor on 9218 5409 or email [majorprojects@westernwater.com.au](mailto:majorprojects@westernwater.com.au) with your name and contact details.

