

Making every drop count in spring and summer

Melbourne's water storages continue to decline following a dry autumn and below-average winter rainfall and less water flowing into our catchments.

To help you stay informed, we're now providing quarterly Water Outlook updates and have launched a new webpage showing weekly water storage levels across our service area.

As of September:



Melbourne's storages are at

69.3%

↑
Up
5.9%
since
June

↑
Above
the target
150

Household water
use remains at



159L

per person per day


Greater Western Water's
local storages are at

72%

↑
Up
18%
since
June

GWW and other Victorian water corporations are keeping a close eye on water storage levels and planning for different conditions. This includes supplying 150 billion litres of desalinated water this year. We can all help by using water wisely every day. Simple actions, such as taking shorter showers, fixing leaks and using water-efficient appliances, can help reduce water use and make the most of our available supplies.

Visit gww.com.au/wateroutlook to view the latest Water Outlook and explore our new storage level charts at gww.com.au/water-storage-levels

How recycled water is helping to save precious drinking water

Recycled water already supports many industrial and agricultural uses across our region. Like supplying farms with a secure source of water and irrigating crops and pastures while preserving drinking water for where it's really needed.

As we plan for our next Urban Water Strategy, outlining how we plan to strengthen Melbourne's water supplies for the next fifty years, we are exploring more ways to reduce demand on drinking water supplies. This includes providing reclaimed stormwater to irrigate green spaces and using recycled water for fit-for-purpose industrial use.

Earlier this year we announced we would be providing recycled water from our Melton Recycled Water Plant to an Amazon Web Services' data centre in Melbourne's west. The data centre is set to be the first in Victoria to be connected to recycled water.



The partnership is setting the standard of how more data centres can work closely with water corporations to connect to recycled or alternative water sources wherever possible. It also demonstrates our alignment with the Victorian Government's guidance for large urban water users, and our ongoing commitment to ensuring every drop counts.

Learn more about recycled water by reading our three-part series gww.com.au/nothing-to-flush-about

Finding and fixing leaks

We are working towards finding and fixing leaks earlier to help protect water supplies as our region's population grows and drier conditions continue.

Since 2021, our program has identified around 3,300 leaks, preventing the loss of around 8,170 litres of water every minute, that's the equivalent to filling an Olympic-sized swimming pool every five hours.

Each year, we survey around 2,000 kilometres of water mains, about one-third of our network, using specialised acoustic technology to detect leaks that may not be visible from the surface.



Learn how to check for leaks at your property at gww.com.au/leaks

Works beneath your feet

Since May, our crews have cleaned around 800 kilometres of water mains across Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Melton and Wyndham council areas, which is the same distance from Melbourne to Sydney.

Our proactive maintenance program helps reduce the risk of water main bursts, discolouration and unexpected service interruptions.

We use air scouring, a technique that combines compressed air and high-pressure water to remove sediment and scale that naturally builds up inside pipes over time.

By cleaning and maintaining our network each year, we help protect water quality, minimise emergency repairs, reduce water loss and ensure reliable services for our region's growing communities. Read more at gww.com.au/works-beneath-your-feet



Are you fire ready?

During a bushfire, extreme heat and high demand can affect water pressure, quality and supply, so it's important to plan ahead, especially if you live in a high fire risk area.

Here's how you can be ready:

- store extra drinking water for everyone (including pets)
- keep hydrants and water assets near your property clear of any obstructions
- stay updated via our website and social media
- Learn more at gww.com.au/bushfires



Update your contact details

Make sure we have your current mobile number so you don't miss important water or safety alerts.

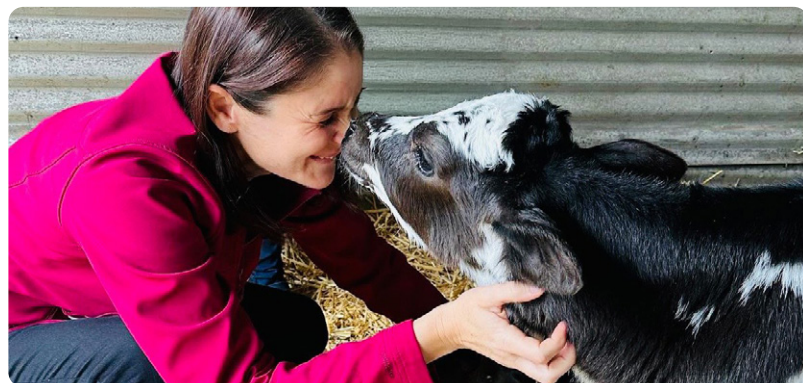
To update your details call us on **13 44 99**

Grants and sponsorships awarded

We have awarded almost \$180,000 in grants to 26 community groups across Melbourne's west through our Thriving Communities program.

We are pleased to be supporting initiatives that promote grassroots programs around water, conservation, sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Among the recipients is the Sanctuary of Sentient Beings, who received \$18,000 in funding for their Sanctuary Rewilding & Living Habitat Restoration project. To learn about our recipients, visit gww.com.au/thrivingcommunities



Jodie Musto (President and Co-founder of Sentient Beings) with Fleckie.

Artefact finds highlight deep connection to Country



Around 15,000 artefacts have been uncovered during the construction of a pipeline that will deliver recycled water for irrigation to dryland farmers in the Parwan-Balliang district, near Bacchus Marsh, as part of the Western Irrigation Network.

The discoveries include stone flakes, stone tools, and a 2,500-year-old hearth, with some artefacts estimated to be more than 9,000 years old, highlighting the long cultural history of the area and its significance to Traditional Owners.

The artefacts have been catalogued and will be respectfully returned to Country through reburial and future smoking ceremonies, in line with Cultural Heritage Management Plans developed in partnership with Traditional Owners.

To read more visit gww.com.au/artefacts-highlight-deep-connection-to-country

Keeping your account safe



Recently, a fake social media account impersonated Greater Western Water and attempted to collect personal information from customers.

To help protect yourself, always check that you're communicating with one of our official channels before sharing any personal or account information.

You can find a list of our official channels at gww.com.au/protectyouraccount

Contact us

Call **13 44 99**

Visit gww.com.au



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