

Media release | 29 April 2020

Have your say on draft Water Restrictions Policy

A clearer and simpler draft Water Restrictions Policy is currently on public exhibition, with community members able to make submissions until 5 June 2020.

The proposed changes provide clarity on what is and is not permitted during water restrictions, along with replacing the 'permanent water conservation measure' with new Stage 1 restrictions during daylight savings each year.

"We recently completed a survey on community attitudes and behaviours around water use and found about 30 per cent of people were aware of the permanent conservation measure and knew the correct details of when it was in place," Riverina Water Chairperson Councillor Greg Verdon said.

"The majority of residents also indicated they were supportive of water restrictions and took it as sign to be more careful with their water usage.

"We have taken that feedback and reviewed the Water Restrictions Policy, with the community able to share their thoughts on the proposed changes."

Changes in the draft policy include:

- Removing the permanent water conservation measure and replacing it with Stage 1 restrictions, which will be in place automatically during the daylight savings period each year
- Stage 1 restrictions to be the use of handheld hoses only between 10am and 5pm each day during daylight savings.
- All other existing water restriction stages renumbered as required
- Using simpler language to describe what is allowed during water restrictions and removing terminology such as fixed hoses etc
- Addition of an "Extraordinary Water Restrictions" category to formalise the existing process of implementing temporary restrictions due to emergency eg bushfire or an infrastructure issue

Riverina Water

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ABN 52 084 883 210



Clr Verdon said while Riverina Water customers enjoy high quality water from secure sources such as the Murrumbidgee River and groundwater, we all have a role to play to reduce water usage where possible.

"We are all very fortunate that we have reliable water sources compared to many other parts of the state," he said.

"However, water is our most precious resource and the changes in the draft policy aim to help the community conserve water where possible. These proposed changes will compliment other work we undertake such as water wise education materials and providing grants and donations towards water conservation projects."

To view the draft policy, visit rwcc.nsw.gov.au. As our office is currently closed to the public, to request a hard copy, please email community@rwcc.nsw.gov.au or call 6922 0608.

Submissions can be made in writing via the above email address, mailed to PO Box 456, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 or faxed to 6921 2241.

Media contact

For interviews, please contact Joshua Lang on 0411 743 362 or media@rwcc.nsw.gov.au.

We supply safe and reliable water to more than 73,000 people across more than 15,000 square kilometres of NSW's Riverina. Our water supply covers the local government areas of Wagga Wagga, Lockhart and parts of Greater Hume and Federation Councils.

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