

# Purple Pulse

## Summer 2019

A newsletter aimed at keeping recycled water users informed. Feature articles and handy hints for using recycled water will help you keep your finger on the pulse and your gardens will benefit too.

### Harvest the bounty of recycled water

Did you know that Phillip Island has its own orchard that produces beautiful fruit and vegetables using recycled water? The volunteer-run Phillip Island Community Orchard (PICO), based in Wimbledon Heights behind the playground, was established in 2013 and is now growing magnificent specimens of citrus, apple, quince, feijoa and even avocado – just to name a few!

Orchard members meet monthly for working bees and are welcome to a private veggie patch. The orchard also hosts seasonal workshops with horticultural and sustainability experts and an autumn harvest festival, where everyone gets to share the bounty.

### 2019 Summer Sunday Working Bees

17 February and 17 March (10am – 2pm)

For more information check Facebook, come to a working bee, email [islandcommunityorchard@gmail.com](mailto:islandcommunityorchard@gmail.com) or feel free to take a tour. All ages and levels of experience are welcome.



Volunteers in the Phillip Island Community Orchard



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## Important reminders

Your outdoor recycled water taps are great for keeping your garden and veggies watered and fertilised, washing down outdoor areas and your car. However, they cannot be used for children's water toys, bathing and swimming pools.

Recycled water pipes and fittings are coloured purple for easy identification and should have a non-standard fitting to prevent accidental use. They should also be labelled with a 'DO Not Drink' sign.

If you need replacement signs or fittings we have a limited supply available from the Westernport Water Newhaven Office.

## Have you checked your recycled water plumbing?

Once a year we recommend you check your water supplies to ensure that recycled water remains connected to the outlet it's intended for. This is even more essential if you've conducted plumbing, landscaping or renovation works in the past 12 months.

We inspected your plumbing when your pipes were initially connected, but an annual self-check is a must.

### It's easy to do:

1. Turn off the stop tap/valve on your drinking water meter, keeping the purple recycled water meter on. Both meters are usually found at the front of your property.
2. Turn on all sink, bath and shower taps (both hot and cold) one by one. All taps should run dry after a short time.
3. After the taps have run dry, flush all toilets. They should refill as normal.
4. Turn on all outdoor taps. All outdoor drinking water taps should run dry while the purple recycled water taps should continue to run. If this is not the case, it could indicate a cross connection, which is where the two water supplies are connected to the wrong outlets.



5. When you turn your drinking water meter back on, ensure all drinking water taps are turned off and then turned on slowly to allow trapped air to escape.

**If a cross-connection has occurred, please contact your local plumber immediately and notify Westernport Water.**



## Recycled Water Guide

### Do your visitors or tenants know about Recycled Water?

Did you know it is your responsibility to educate your visitors on the safe uses for Recycled Water on your property? For more information look up Recycled Water on our website.

### Need a copy of the Recycled Water Guide for yourself, your tenants or visitors?

Please give us a call on 1300 720 711.



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