



Community Support Program

Applications invited for the 2023-24 Community Support Program for local community groups, sports clubs, schools or not-for-profit organisations looking for funding for small projects and events.

Program overview

Westernport Water's Community Support Program provides funding to support **local community groups, projects and events** within our service area.

We have committed **\$35,000** for the 2023-24 financial year, which will be split in to two grant streams.

Program purpose

We believe it is important that the initiatives and projects we support make a sustainable impact to our region and customers, building positive change in our local communities.

Our Community Support Program aims to strengthen communities by providing funding or support focused around these **three key themes**:

-  **Healthy people**
-  **Healthy communities**
-  **Healthy planet**

We will consider applications that align with the above **three key themes** and at least one of the following six categories:

- water and wastewater literacy and education
- water conservation
- environmental wellbeing/sustainability
- health and liveability of our community
- social wellbeing of our community
- cultural heritage/Aboriginal water values.

(see *Terms and Conditions (T&C's)* for a list of examples of projects ,and events we will consider supporting).

Two funding streams available

This year we are offering two types of funding streams, after feedback from previous applicants.

1. Quick Response applications:

Our new "Quick Response" applications are available for events and projects that require a quick response (usually 2-3 weeks from receipt of application). Let us know in your application if you require a quick response.

Quick response applications will be assessed twice in the 2023-24 financial year, in August and December 2023. Groups can apply for up to \$1000 for events, hydration and Choose Tap projects (see below).

2. Regular applications

We will have one round of offers for regular applications for projects or events occurring in the 2023-24 financial year. Applications open between June/July 2023, and will be announced in late August. Groups can apply for up to \$1000 for events, hydration and Choose Tap projects, and up to \$3,000 for small projects.

Sponsorship categories

We offer two main categories of sponsorship:

1. **Events, Hydration and Choose Tap - up to \$1,000**
2. **Financial support for small projects - up to \$3,000**

Events - to financially support the running of local sustainable events, by reducing single use plastic and supporting a healthy community and lifestyle.

The event **must** include tap water promotion, and must **not** have single use plastic water bottles available for sale or giveaways.

Hydration - includes:

- free hire of our Hydration Station trailer for events
- purchase of metal reusable water bottles
- Hydration Kits for clubs (eg. reusable team water bottles and carriers, water dispensors/coolers.

Small projects - project examples include:

- weed control
- revegetation with indigenous plants
- improving the health of local waterways
- building a school vegetable garden or sustainable indigenous garden bed for teaching purposes
- water saving projects including purchase or installation of water tanks, pumps, or irrigation devices
- Permanent water stations (fountains) - purchase or installation of a permanent water station at your publicly accessible community area or facility.

See a comprehensive lists of examples in our FAQ's.

Application period

1 June 2023	Applications open
31 July 2023	Applications close
2-3 weeks	Quick response notifications
31 August 2023	Outcomes advised to applicants
15 Sep 2023	Cheque presentation event

To ensure your application has the best chance, please address all required information, detailed in the Terms and Conditions (T&C's). Our FAQ brochure also provides a lot of valuable information that will assist your application.

Who can apply?

Sponsorship will **ONLY** be provided to [registered not-for-profit organisations](#) (charity, incorporated community groups, management committees, volunteer groups, sporting clubs, school or kinder) within Westernport Water's service area who have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or are an incorporated body.

Your project or activity **MUST** be located or held within our region: View our [service area map](#) on our website.

Can successful applicants from the 2022-23 Community Support Program apply again in 2023-24?

Yes, eligible groups may apply yearly. Each application will be assessed separately each year. Success one year does not guarantee success another year, nor does it prevent your organisation being approved again. The previous sponsorship must be complete however, with all acquittal forms and proof of completion and expenditure submitted.

Can one group or organisation submit more than one application each year?

Yes, a group/organisation can submit more than one application each year, however, **only one** application may be approved from each applicant.

Each application will be assessed separately and if more than one is deemed eligible, we will select the project or event which we decide is best for that year.

Submitting more than one application will allow us to find the best combination of local projects and events we wish to support.



How to submit your application

Submit your application via:

- the [online application form](#)

To attach required supporting documents, please follow instructions on the form.

Application tips

Tips to help you prepare a good application:

Tip 1: Thoroughly read the Community Support Program:

- [webpage](#)
- Terms and Conditions (T&C's)*
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)*.

Tip 2: Check your organisation or community group is eligible to apply (refer to Eligibility & Conditions - T&C's*)

Tip 3: Determine the type of sponsorship you are seeking (see page one of this Fact Sheet)

Tip 4: Prepare your application and evidence to support your application.

Tip 5: Research how much your project or event will cost, or require (quotes **MUST** be provided).

Tip 6: Ensure your project or event will be completed in the required time period.

Tip 7: Lodge your [application](#) using the information you prepared, including any supportive documents.

* FAQ's, full T&C's and the requirements for your application can be found on our [website](#).

When preparing your application make sure you define:

- **what** you hope the project will achieve
- **who** will benefit from the project
- **how** the project matches the aim of the Community Support Program.

To check that you've included this, ask yourself:

- **who** will your project target?
- **what** will your project achieve?
- **when** will your project be held?
- **where** will your project run?
- **why** is your project important?
- **how** will you run your project?

FURTHER INFORMATION



For further information about the Community Support Program including T&C's, FAQ's and to apply visit our [website](#).

If you would like to speak with someone about your application, please contact the Communications and Engagement Team:

☎ 1300 720 711

@ communications@westernportwater.com.au

www.westernportwater.com.au