

Class A Recycled Water

Smart reuse for a
sustainable community



Class A recycled water is the highest quality treated wastewater, safe for non-drinking uses like garden watering, including vegetable gardens, toilet flushing, and car washing.

Supplied through dedicated “purple pipes” by Westernport Water, it is not subject to Permanent Water Saving Rules, and it is cheaper than potable water. It also reduces the amount of treated effluent discharged to the ocean.

By using recycled water, we’re maintaining green open spaces, supporting local food production, regional tourism and strengthening environmental outcomes.



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Class A Recycled Water is safe, reliable and suitable for non-drinking purposes

Currently, Westernport Water supplies Class A recycled water to new residential developments and commercial customers on Phillip Island. Class A is the highest grade of recycled water we produce, and it plays an important part in helping to preserve drinking water supplies.

Plans are to expand the recycled water network to support future growth in the region. This expansion will strengthen water security, enhance local amenities, and support a more sustainable resilient community.

What is Class A?

Class A recycled water is wastewater that has been treated to be safely reused for a broad range of purposes.



Residential customers can use it for toilet flushing, washing cars and boats, filling water features, watering lawns, gardens and vegetable gardens.



Non-residential customers can use it for irrigating public open spaces (parks, ovals, golf courses), agricultural irrigation (including food crops), cooling towers, fire fighting, and industrial washing.

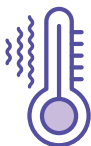


Important: Class A recycled water is not drinking water and cannot be used for cooking, showering, baths or swimming pools.

Benefits



Helps keep things green all year round. It's not subject to drinking water restrictions, so you can freely use it to maintain gardens and lawns, and to wash cars and boats.



It is a valuable resource during dry times. Because recycled water isn't subject to Permanent Water Saving Rules, it remains available even during drought or periods of low rainfall.



Protects and enhances the environment. Using recycled water reduces the nutrient load discharged to the ocean and helps preserve our waterways and precious drinking water supplies.



Strengthens our local water security. By using recycled water for tasks that don't need drinking-quality water, we can make Westernport Water's drinking water supplies go further.



It has a wide range of users including residential, commercial and municipal.



Saves you money, because it offers significant cost savings compared to drinking water.

Recycled water in residential areas

DO ✓



Wash cars and boats on the grass



Flush toilets



Water gardens, vegetable gardens, lawns and open spaces



Fill ornamental ponds and water features

DON'T ✗



Drink or cook



Bath or shower



Fill pools or spas



Fill water toys

Recycled water on residential property

Your house will have 'dual reticulation', which means you have **two separate water pipe networks and water meters**:

- One supplies drinking water to the property and the purple pipe supplies Class A recycled water.

Recycled water pipes and fittings will look very similar to your normal plumbing fittings. However, all taps and fittings with Class A recycled water **are coloured purple** for easy identification and must comply with the Building & Plumbing Commission (BPC) and Plumbing Regulations.



Important: All plumbing installation work on your property must be performed by a licensed plumber.

Westernport Water is responsible for the meter and all pipes and systems up to the meter. During property development, we will inspect the recycled water plumbing work to ensure the safe delivery of recycled water to your home.

Recycled water will be connected to your front and back garden taps and may also be connected to your toilet depending on the conditions in your housing estate. It is recommended to be used for any garden irrigation systems.



Important: A Recycled Water: 'Do not drink' sign must be fixed to all Class A recycled water purple taps located outdoors making them easy to recognise and use safely.





Safe, reliable and effective for commercial use

Recycled water is used safely around the world for a wide range of agricultural and commercial purposes.

Class A recycled water is the highest quality recycled water available in Victoria, rigorously treated and continuously tested to ensure it is safe and fit for purpose.

Reliable supply, year-round

Class A recycled water provides a secure, drought-resilient water source, not subject to water restrictions. It's a renewable resource that can help improve productivity and reduce reliance on traditional water supplies.

Nutrient benefits and management

Class A recycled water contains valuable nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, which can:

- boost crop and pasture growth
- reduce fertiliser costs.

However, nutrient management is essential to maintain soil health and protect waterways. Recycled water is not recommended for hydroponic systems, and pigs **must not** drink or graze on pasture irrigated with recycled water.

User Site Management Plans (USMPs)

Every commercial or agricultural customer must develop a **USMP** in consultation with Westernport Water.

These plans ensure recycled water is managed safely, protecting people, animals, crops, and the environment.

An information kit is available from Westernport Water that includes guidance on your USMP, a checklist, and a Usage Agreement to sign before connection.

Looking to connect?

We're looking for opportunities to expand the recycled water network to allow us to service more properties and reuse more wastewater. We've streamlined the process for connection and the ongoing administration of site management plans. Register your interest on our website and we will be in touch.



Save time: Get in touch with us to confirm if your property is eligible to connect to Class A recycled water services.



Cross connection checks for everyone's safety

Westernport Water will be inspecting recycled water connections at properties to make sure the community's drinking water supply remains safe. Westernport Water inspects properties connected to recycled water to make sure that the correct tap ware and signage is installed.

These inspections also check to make sure that the recycled water and drinking water pipes are not accidentally connected to each other.




Important: If you make any changes to your plumbing, you should have a licensed plumber conduct a cross-connection check.



Contact us

For more information about recycled water, where it's available and how to connect – visit our website.

Talk with our Wastewater Quality Specialist who can assist with your enquiry and in understanding the requirements to connect to the recycled water network.

 1300 720 711.

 environment@westernportwater.com.au



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