

Media Release



Monday, 12 October, 2009

Water-smart town gives Western Water star rating at national sustainability awards

Western Water has taken top honours in the 2009 savewater! sustainability in government awards, announced in Sydney on Friday night.

The award recognises Western Water's smart design and integrated water management supply servicing Eynesbury Township, the first new Victorian town development in more than 100 years and the first ever to have a six-star sustainability rating, saving about 60 per cent of precious drinking water.

Western Water Managing Director John Wilkinson said with a projected 2900 homes planned over the next 20 years, the average household consumption of potable water at Eynesbury is already less than half that of standard residential subdivisions.

"The savewater! awards are great recognition for water conservation projects," Mr Wilkinson said. "And this year, for the first time, they are Australia-wide, attracting more than 700 entries, some from international companies.

"These awards recognise the many ways innovation and best practice are helping us all to live more sustainably and more in tune with our environment," he said.

"Eynesbury is located in an area of traditionally low rainfall, high evaporation and deep saline ground water.

"This required significant strategic planning to design the infrastructure this needed to achieve a six-star environmentally sustainable rating for this town."

Mr Wilkinson said Class A recycled water is supplied to every Eynesbury home through a special "purple pipe" for use in toilet flushing, garden watering, car washing and even fire fighting.

"The end result is almost 60 per cent of water used by Eynesbury households is recycled water," Mr Wilkinson said.

Class A water is also being used for irrigation of public parks and sporting facilities. To date, Western Water has saved more than 1,500 ML of potable water by supplying recycled water for the construction and development of Eynesbury.

"Eynesbury provides the blueprint for an exciting and innovative future for Melbourne's urban planners and developers," Mr Wilkinson said.

... /2

About Western Water

Western Water is one of Victoria's 13 regional urban water corporations. We provide water, recycled water and sewerage services to over 53,000 properties and 134,810 people in an area of 3,000 square kilometres. Our region extends from Lancefield in the north to Melton and Rockbank in the south and from Myrning in the west to Bulla in the east. We incorporate parts of Hume City Council and Melton, Moorabool and Macedon Ranges Shire Councils.

Media contacts

Helen Grimaux | Media Advisor | 0419 356 361 | helen.grimaux@westernwater.com.au

Brigid Wenn | Manager Communications | 03 9218 5521 | 0419 314 700 | brigid.wenn@westernwater.com.au

Media Release



- 2 -

“This purpose-built township showcases a future where every drop of water is used wisely and recycling and reuse underpin the environmental footprint of the urban form.”

Within Western Water’s community, two other finalists were also successful at Friday night’s savewater! Awards — the Ecolinc Science and Technology Innovations Centre at Bacchus Marsh won first place in the Education Institutions award category and an entry by a Bacchus Marsh College student Hannah Mossop won an annual photographic award.

For more details, visit www.savewater.com.au

< END >

About Western Water

Western Water is one of Victoria’s 13 regional urban water corporations. We provide water, recycled water and sewerage services to over 53,000 properties and 134,810 people in an area of 3,000 square kilometres. Our region extends from Lancefield in the north to Melton and Rockbank in the south and from Myrning in the west to Bulla in the east. We incorporate parts of Hume City Council and Melton, Moorabool and Macedon Ranges Shire Councils.

Media contacts

Helen Grimaux | Media Advisor | 0419 356 361 | helen.grimaux@westernwater.com.au

Brigid Wenn | Manager Communications | 03 9218 5521 | 0419 314 700 | brigid.wenn@westernwater.com.au