

Deep Cleaning Sewer Systems

In the lead up to Christmas 2017 South Gippsland Water embarked on a program of deep cleaning sections of sewer that are known blockage hotspots. A \$70,000 cleaning program has been designed to maintain reliable sewerage services and minimise sewer blockages across the region. The program includes sections of sewer in Wonthaggi, Inverloch, Leongatha, Korumburra and Foster. Specialist contractors are being utilised with technologies such as eduction trucks to 'vacuum' silts and sediments out of pipes and a combination of cutter blades/pressure washers to remove potential blockages before problems occur.

Sign up to receive your Accounts by email



South Gippsland Water now offers an eAccount service, where customers can receive their water and sewerage accounts by email. Not only will you receive your account quickly, you will be helping the environment with less paper and envelopes needed.

To sign up visit www.sgwwater.formsport.com.au. You will need a copy of your water or sewer account and input your name exactly as shown on your account. Please also provide your account number and an email address to receive the emailed account.

Preparing for a dry summer

South Gippsland Water is ready for a dry summer, but customers can also prepare their gardens and change their water use behaviours to help conserve water.

Do you know the permanent water saving rules?

South Gippsland Water would like to encourage all customers to familiarise themselves with the Permanent Water Saving Rules. These are a set of common sense rules that must be followed year round and include;



Watering gardens during the cool:

Only water gardens with a sprinkler system between the hours of 6pm and 10am



Install trigger nozzles on hoses:

All garden hoses must have a trigger nozzle and be leak free



Sweep, don't hose:

Use a broom to sweep paving and other hard surfaces

You may use a hose to clean buildings and other hard surfaces during the course of construction or renovations, if there is a health or safety hazard or if staining has developed and then only once a year. Use a high pressure water cleaner if available, if not use a bucket or hose and ensure a trigger nozzle is fitted to your hose.

Preparing your garden

Gardens and lawns use a lot of water, however there are things you can do now to reduce your need to water the garden saving both time and money.

- Consider planting drought tolerant plant species. Some lawn grasses are more tolerant to dry conditions than others. There are also many native plant species that will thrive during dry summers. However, drought tolerant plants are not just natives, there are many Mediterranean plants and plants such as roses that will do well during dry months.

- Mulch; did you know that mulch can cut your garden water use by up to 60%? Mulch helps lock moisture into the ground and insulates the ground from the sun's hot rays. Meaning that you won't need to water as much, or as often.

- Installing a new watering system? Install a dripper system and soil moisture sensors. This will help ensure water is not wasted into the atmosphere and gets close to the ground and roots where water is needed. Soil moisture sensors also help to ensure you do not over-water and only water when it's needed.



Preparing your home & family

There are lots of things you can do within the house to save water and a big part of this is changing your mindset around water use and saving water.

- Install a water saving showerhead. Around 30% of household water use is in the shower. A water saving showerhead can help you save 9,000 litres per person per year!
- Limiting showers to only 4 minutes helps too, each minute you save in the shower can save between 9 and 20 litres of water depending on your showerhead. This adds up over a year to a saving of a minimum of 15,000 litres.
- A leaking toilet wastes up to 16,000 litres per year. To check for leaks, put a little food dye into the top of the cistern, don't flush for 15 minutes. If colour appears in the bowl, then you know you have a silent leak and your cistern needs repair.
- Use the plug when rinsing vegetables or dishes (or even better do this in a bucket and tip the greywater onto your garden). A running tap uses between 9 and 20 litres of water per minute



Water Main Replacement - Korumburra



From November 2017 through to February 2018, South Gippsland Water will replace a section of the water main along Warragul Road, Korumburra that links the township with the Korumburra Water Treatment Plant.

The section of pipe that is being replaced is

some 60 years old and of recent times has been the subject of bursts and leaks. As a result it is a high priority for replacement. The project marks a significant investment, \$500,000 towards the Corporations commitment to quality services and reliable systems.

Community Grants

Over a number of years, many community groups have benefitted through South Gippsland Water grants, for water efficiency or catchment improvement projects.

Hills 2 Ocean

Community groups can apply for funds of up to \$500 for catchment and river health improvement activities through the Hills 2 Ocean [H2O] program. For example:

- Prevention of erosion and land slippage
- Fencing to protect water courses and remnant vegetation
- Rehabilitation of river and stream-side habitats
- Educational and promotional displays.

Help 4 Water Efficient Organisations

Applications for grants of up to \$500 can be made by community organisations to the Help 4 Water Efficient Organisations [H4O] program to assist in small water efficiency projects. Funds can be directed towards:

- Rainwater tanks and irrigation systems
- Tap meters and installation of water efficient fittings
- Dual flush toilets
- Community education.



Community groups are encouraged to visit the Learning Centre section of our website for further information and application forms.

Buckley Park Farm

Fish Creek's Buckley Park Farm were recently successful in gaining H4O funding for the purchase of materials to install a water efficient dripper irrigation system at their community farm. The group comprises some 30-40 members who meet each week to plant and maintain vegetable and fruit crops in their community garden. During summer months the group is even able to sell boxes of their wares with funds going towards purchase of more plants and materials to regenerate the garden each season.

Pictured are members of Buckley Park Farm celebrating their H4O grant in front of a garden bed featuring dripper hoses for irrigation.

Lance Creek Water Connection



Construction on the Lance Creek Water Connection pipeline commenced late 2017. On ground work has begun on the Kongwak to Korumburra section alongside the Korumburra-Wonthaggi Road. Pipe is being delivered to site and crews are preparing the pipeline construction corridor, installing access points from the road, carrying out survey and fencing works, and commencing earthworks.

The Lance Creek Water Connection is a key Victorian Government project to be delivered by South Gippsland Water that will secure the water supply needs of Korumburra, Poowong, Loch and Nyora over the next 50 years.

To find out more about the Lance Creek Water Connection and to receive regular updates, visit the Project page at www.sgwater.com.au. Also follow us on Facebook and Twitter @SthGippsWater.

Renting? Advise us when you move out

Do you rent? If so, don't forget to tell us when you move, so that we can arrange for your meter to be read and you don't get stung with the water usage charge from the new tenants.

It is the tenant's responsibility to advise South Gippsland Water when vacating a property.

Call 1300 851 636 and talk to our friendly Customer Service Team at least 2 business days ahead of your vacating date.



ACCOUNTS

There are many ways to receive your account, pay your bill and track your account information – it's all about convenience, security and choice.

There are **two new ways** to do this at South Gippsland Water:

eAccount service - sign up at www.sgwater.formsport.com.au to receive your account by email.



BPAY View – an easy way to view, pay and store your bills and statements electronically.

Find more details enclosed here along with your account.



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