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NATIONAL WATER WEEK Sunday, 21 October 2007

## \$24 MILLION IN WATER SAVING INCENTIVES

The State Government will spend \$24 million on a water saving rebates that is estimated to save more than five billion litres of water a year by 2010.

Announcing the new package on the banks of the River Murray in Murray Bridge today, Premier Mike Rann and Water Security Minister Karlene Maywald said the three-year scheme encourages greater household water efficiency inside and outside the home.

The package of rebates will cover:

- **Showerheads:** Rebates of up to \$30 are available for installing a low-flow showerhead. There are 300,000 low-flow showerheads available over three years.
- **Home Water Audits:** From January 1, 2008 householders can have a water assessment of their properties with recommendations to reduce water and energy consumption. As part of the audit, two low-flow showerheads can be installed. Rebates are \$100 for metropolitan Adelaide and \$110 for regional areas.
- **Garden Smart Products:** Spend \$150 on eligible water efficient gardening goods and receive a \$50 rebate.
- **Washing machine rebates:** Householders can receive a rebate of up to \$200 when they buy a minimum 4-star washing machine.
- **Dual-flush toilet rebates:** Rebates of up to \$150 are available to replace older inefficient toilets with dual-flush systems.

“Under our Water Proofing Adelaide strategy, we set a target of saving more than 11 billion litres of indoor household water a year by 2025,” Mr Rann said.

“This rebates package is designed to accelerate this saving.

“Reducing demand on our mains water supply forms part of the four central planks of the State Government’s strategy to secure our State’s future water supplies – which includes desalination, improved storage, recycling and catchment management.

“The community has made a huge effort to reduce water consumption during the current drought and we hope to encourage ongoing water savings through this scheme.”

**Minister Maywald says an information campaign – including a rebate booklet – will be launched shortly in preparation for the start of the scheme on Thursday, November 1.**

“Installing a low-flow showerhead may seem like a small action, but about 16,000 litres of water can be saved per household each year. This package could save 1.6 billion litres of household water annually,” she said.

“We also know that low-flow showerheads reduce household energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions, so this is a smart green solution for South Australians.

“A number of conditions will apply but the rebates will be available to all residential properties regardless of whether the property is connected to SA Water supply.

“This includes homeowners and tenants. However, tenants will need to present a letter from the property owner to be eligible for the showerhead, dual flush toilet or plumbing service.

“A home audit can be carried out by any licensed plumber that has registered with SA Water to carry out audits that comply with SA Water criteria.

Application forms and full terms and conditions will be available from the SA Water website ([www.sawater.com.au](http://www.sawater.com.au)) or by phoning 1800 130 952.

## **REBATES PACKAGE - \$24 million over three years**

Each year the following will be offered:

<b>Product</b>	<b>Spend this amount ...</b>	<b>And get rebate up to ...</b>
<p><b>100,000 low flow showerheads per year</b> Must feature a rating of 3 or more stars under the Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme. This number includes showers being offered as part of the showerhead exchange program and the \$30 rebate scheme.</p>	No limit	\$30
<p><b>Home Water Audits</b> From January 1, 2008, householders can have a home water audit where they will receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An internal water assessment and an external water assessment, including a comprehensive report with recommendations and solutions that can be implemented to reduce water and energy consumption.</li> <li>- Free installation and provision of up to two low-flow showerheads.</li> </ul>	No limit	<p>\$100 for metropolitan Adelaide</p> <p>\$110 for regional areas</p>
<p><b>Garden Smart Products</b> Eligible products include water efficient gardening goods such as mulch or compost, soil wetting agents, soil moisture sensors, compost bins, and tap timers.</p>	\$150	\$50
<p><b>Washing Machine rebates</b> Minimum 4 stars required under the Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme.</p>	No limit	\$200
<p><b>Dual-flush Toilets rebates</b> For 3 litre and 6 litre dual-flush toilets to replace older inefficient toilets.</p>	No limit	\$150