



Government  
of South Australia

# Media Release

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**Minister Karlene Maywald**

Minister for the River Murray

Minister for Water Security

**Mayor Felicity-ann Lewis**

President

Local Government Association

Of South Australia

## FREE WATER SAVING SHOWERHEADS ON OFFER IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE

SA Water and the Local Government Association of South Australia have joined forces again to help householders save water by offering more opportunities to exchange their old and inefficient showerheads with new water-efficient models for free.

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald said following a successful two-month trial held last year with 10 councils, the new Swap and Save Program would be offered to all SA local councils and run from August to November this year.

“During the trial last year we managed to exchange more than 4500 old showerheads with efficient ones in just 10 council districts,” Minister Maywald says.

“This alone equated to an estimated 180 million litres of ongoing water savings and now we can build on this to progressively roll out the new program to all local councils in the State and continue to encourage householders to save millions of litres more.

“Conventional showerheads can use up to 18 litres of water a minute, compared with the low-flow, 3 Star WELS rated water efficient models being offered for exchange, which use less than 9 litres a minute.

“The simple act of replacing old showerheads with water efficient models can also help people save money in decreased water and energy costs throughout the year.

“The collaborative work we’ve been doing with the LGA SA has been fantastic and it’s encouraging to see we already have 10 councils locked in for exchange dates and a further 30 councils which have indicated they will participate, with their exchange dates to be confirmed.”

The Swap and Save Program is part of the Waterwise Communities Program led by SA Water and the LGA SA, which aims to increase communication, education and incentives for communities and individuals to save water inside and around the home.

“The program is open to all South Australian local councils and they can still register their interest to take part in the program with SA Water,” Minister Maywald says.

LGA SA President Felicity-ann Lewis said she was pleased with the results from last year’s trial and now to put the program into action for all councils across the State was a fantastic initiative.

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“The collaborative nature of this project further recognises the importance for Local Government and SA Water to work together in promoting wise water use.

“Local councils in every South Australian district are looking at new and innovative ways to save water during this drought,” Ms Lewis says.

“We are working at the grass roots of every community and now to be able to offer our residents a free and simple opportunity to save water and money in their homes, is a huge bonus.

“I am pleased at the uptake so far from local councils and would encourage all of those which have not already done so, to contact SA Water and get involved in the program.

“Householders should keep an eye out for more information from their local council on when they might get a chance to exchange their old showerhead for a new one at their local government centre.”

The first to take part in the 2009 program will be the District Council of Cleve on Eyre Peninsula. The council will have water efficient showerheads to exchange from Monday, 31 August through to Friday, September 4.

Other confirmed council dates are:

- District Council of Cleve: 31 August – 4 September
- District Council of Mount Remarkable: 31 August – 30 October
- Town of Gawler: 7 – 14 September
- City of Onkaparinga: 7 September - 9 October
- District Council of Loxton Waikerie: 14 – 26 September
- District Council of Mt Barker: 14 September – 9 October
- Port Pirie Regional Council: 28 September – 9 October
- City of Playford: 12 – 23 October
- City of Norwood Payneham St Peter’s: 19 – 24 October
- City of Charles Sturt: 1 – 30 November

Details of participating councils, exchange dates and locations will be available soon on the Swap and Save Program page on SA Water’s website [www.sawater.com.au](http://www.sawater.com.au).

Councils will inform residents living in their district of the program via letterbox drops or an insert in regular council correspondence. Where possible, the program will publicised in local newsletters and newspapers.

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