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MEDIA RELEASE

REMEMBER TO BE WATER WISE IN 2012

SA Water is reminding all South Australians to remain water wise throughout 2012.

Water Wise Measures were introduced across most of the State in December 2010 following the improved availability of water sources.

SA Water Chief Executive John Ringham says these measures recognise that water is a precious resource which should not be taken for granted.

“Under the measures the community has flexibility when it comes to how and when they water their gardens while still ensuring that we value every drop,” Mr Ringham says.

“Gardeners can water with a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, through a drip-feed irrigation system, via a watering can or bucket on any day, at any time. Sprinklers can be used after 5pm and before 10am on any day.

“As a community we need to continue to be mindful of how much water we use. The drought taught us this valuable lesson.”

Adelaide’s 2011 water consumption was about 6,500 megalitres higher when compared to 2010, however it remained well below the Water Wise Measures guidelines.

The increase in consumption during 2011 can be attributed to less rainfall and warmer weather throughout winter and spring.

“Although we have noticed an increase in consumption, Adelaide is using much less water when compared to a couple of years ago. This shows how much the community’s attitude towards water usage has changed,” Mr Ringham says.

“As a community we have done an excellent job to keep our water usage down and I strongly encourage everyone to continue their water wise behaviours throughout 2012.”

Anyone caught in direct breach of Water Wise Measures can receive an expiation notice for \$375. For more information about Water Wise Measures or tips on lowering water usage visit www.sawater.com.au or call the Water Wise Hotline on 1800 130 952.

Adelaide’s yearly water consumption comparisons in megalitres (ML)

Total consumption – 2011: 131,474 ML (Water Wise Measures)

Total consumption – 2010: 124,932 ML

Total consumption – 2009: 137,347 ML

Total consumption – 2008: 136,904 ML

Total consumption – 2007: 139,897 ML (Level 3 Water Restrictions)

Water Wise Measures guideline: 179,153 ML