

Thursday, 31 March 2011

EYRE PENINSULA'S WATER RESTRICTIONS TO BE LIFTED

Minister for Water Paul Caica today announced that enhanced Level 3 Water Restrictions in place across the Eyre Peninsula will end on Sunday and be replaced with Water Wise Measures.

Mr Caica said improved recharge into the region's Southern Groundwater Basins and lower water usage by SA Water customers has led to an improvement to the region's current water situation.

"Under Water Wise Measures there will no longer be set times for watering gardens with a hand held hose or drip irrigation system and householders can again use sprinklers," he said.

"Sprinklers can be used after 5pm and before 10am on any day, however the community needs to continue to be sensible with their use and not waste water.

"These new measures give residents greater flexibility when it comes to how and when they use water outside the home and I'm confident consumption will remain at manageable levels."

Mr Caica said the Eyre Peninsula community has demonstrated their ability to save water, with consumption in 2010 almost one billion litres lower when compared to 2009.

"Water restrictions have helped change the community's attitude towards water usage during drought conditions and I'm confident this attitude will continue to be applied to everyday usage," he said.

"The new measures will be subject to ongoing reviews in regards to consumption levels and SA Water's groundwater allocations from the Department for Water."

Enhanced Level 3 Water Restrictions were introduced across Eyre Peninsula on July 1, 2009 following prolonged drought conditions and a reduction to SA Water's allocation from the Southern Groundwater Basins.

WATER WISE MEASURES FROM APRIL 3, 2011

Domestic Gardens and Lawns

Watering is permitted at any time by hand (through a hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, from a watering can or bucket) or through a drip feed irrigation system.
Sprinklers can be used on any day after 5pm and before 10am.

Washing Cars and Boats

Water can be used to wash motor vehicles or a boat provided the water is applied:

- From a bucket or watering can
- By a high pressure, low volume water cleaner; or

- From a hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle
- At a commercial car wash

Driveways, Paths, Verandas and Entertaining Areas

The hosing down of external paved areas with water is permitted with a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle only:

- To protect public health
- To ensure the safety of people using the area
- To ensure the health and welfare of animals using the area
- To deal with fire, accident or other emergency

Swimming Pools

New pools can be filled under a permit from SA Water. Before a permit is issued, SA Water requires proof of purchase of an approved pool cover.

Construction Sites

Water can be used for dust suppression and compaction when it is applied from:

- A hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle
- Directly from a motor vehicle designed and approved to carry/deposit water

Sports Grounds and Recreational Facilities

Sports grounds and recreational facilities can be watered under an Irrigation of Public Open Space permit as negotiated with SA Water.

For more information visit www.sawater.com.au or call SA Water on 1800 130 952.