

IPOS e-Bulletin

Issue 33 – August 2015

IPOS Program 2015-16 Season

A reminder of the permit requirements and technical support available

SA Water's Irrigated Public Open Space (IPOS) program provides guidelines and direction for the management of irrigated public open space and has been endorsed by the irrigation industry in South Australia.



Under Water Wise Measures, all turf areas with a cumulative total of greater than 5,000 square metres, and are irrigated with SA Water's supply, require a permit. At the beginning of the 2014/15 financial year applicable customers were issued IPOS permits that expire at the end of the 2017/18 financial year. If you're unsure whether you were issued a permit, please contact us.

The IPOS program is available to schools, councils and sporting clubs providing support including:

- Providing information on water consumption, accounts and exemptions from standard rates and charges;
- Issuing of permits;
- Making available climate updates, e-bulletins and fact sheets on irrigation management;
- Assistance in monitoring water usage;
- Providing information about SA Water and its products and services and
- Providing information on water quality, flow and pressure.

Please contact us and make the most of the resources available!

Tip of the month

Preparing for the upcoming season

With some warmer weather beginning to appear and the irrigation season approaching, now is a good time to ensure you're prepared for this season. Check your irrigation system and give it a run to make sure it survived the winter. You can test your sprinklers are in working order and make adjustments as necessary. Be sure to check solenoid valves, pumps, irrigation controllers and your water meter to ensure everything is in order. It's also a good idea to make sure you've budgeted for your water use and have an idea of the desired outcomes you want to achieve.

Technical Series

Pressure and flow supplied to your property

On occasions the Business Relations Group will receive enquiries regarding the pressure and flow being supplied to a customer's property. In this article we aim to give you an introduction into the relationship between pressure and flow and how it may impact your operations.

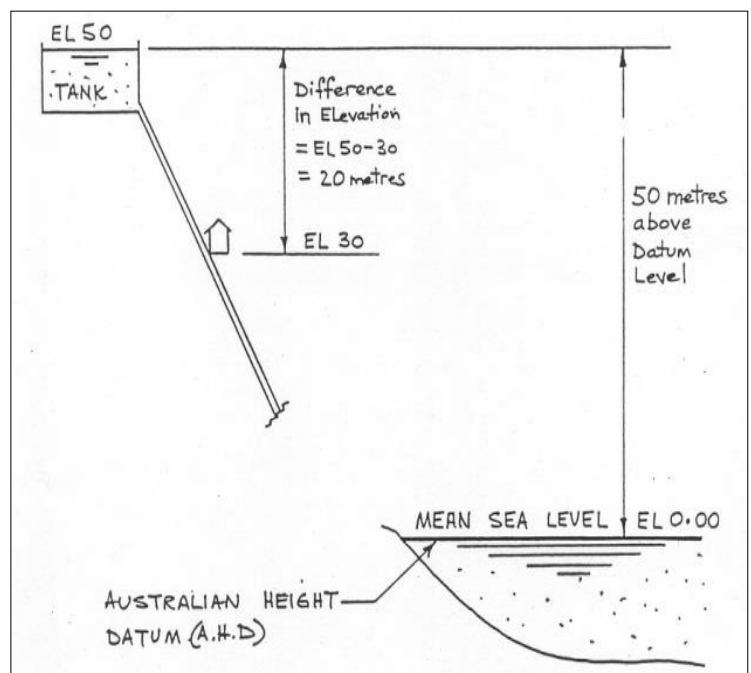
Flow:

The flow of water refers to the motion of a fluid, in this case water, and is commonly expressed in a volume over a defined time period such as minutes, e.g. litres per minute. The flow in closed pipes depends on the pipe diameter, length of pipe, roughness of the pipe wall (friction) and the upstream pressure.

Pressure:

Water pressure is the force acting on an area and is commonly expressed in kilopascals (kPa) or meters head (m). Within the SA Water water supply network the pressure at your connection will, in most cases, originate from an elevated tank upstream from your property. One meter of elevation (1 meters head) equates to approximately 10kPa of pressure. **Figure 1** is a typical example illustrating the pressure head created by an elevated tank. In this example the pressure supplied to the house is 20 meters which is approximately 200kPa.

Figure 1 – Example of the pressure being supplied to a property created by the elevation (EL) tank



Pressure and Flow Relationship:

The flow and pressure supplied to your property will depend on a number of factors. The size of your connection(s) and water main abutting your property, your location in the localised network from the elevation tank and whether there are pumping stations or pressure reducing valves near your property will all impact the supply to your property. The flow and pressure will also be impacted by the demand from other water users drawing from the same water main. If there is significant demand on the localised network you may notice a pressure reduction at your property during this time. Conversely, there will be greater supply conditions available during times where demand is lower. When we assess a new water connection application, we will consider the extent of demand already on the localised network and plan accordingly. In areas where the water demand is approaching the capacity of what the localised network can supply, we will propose augmentation solutions to allow for growth and potentially add these projects to our capital works plan.

SA Water's Obligations:

Whilst we will use our best endeavours to provide you with a water flow rate to meet your reasonable needs we do not guarantee specific values for either flow or pressure. We acknowledge that the flow rate and pressure may not be sufficient for all purposes without provision of additional onsite infrastructure. The customer will assume the responsibility of providing such additional infrastructure. For more information on this please refer to the [SA Water Standard Customer Contract](#).

How do you manage pressure at your property?

- Re-pressurise your supply by installing a tank. Water can then be pumped from the tank into your internal plumbing network. This allows you greater control over the pressure and flow of your water supply;
- Reduce the pressure by installing pressure reducing valves through your internal pipework;
- Maintain pressure by reducing pressure losses through better plumbing designs, reducing the number of bends and elbows and rising mains, reducing the distance water travels across your site as well as managing water consumption and efficiency across the your site; and
- Maintain appropriate pipe sizing and ensure pipes are clear of obstacles.

How do you manage flow requirements at your property?

- Installing a tank on your property and pumping from the tank;
- Increase the size of internal pipes at your property if your internal pipes are restricting flow; and
- Implement flow restrictors in the internals of your pipe to decrease flow.

It's important to remember to use a licensed plumber when making changes to your plumbing and ensure you are meeting all the appropriate regulations. Qualified irrigation consultants are also useful to assist in the design and improvement of pressure and flow conditions at your property. If you'd like to know specific details regarding the pressure or flow at your property please contact us on the details in the banner below.

Disclaimer:

SA Water's Business Technical Support provides recommendations and suggestions only. It is advised that further investigations and detailed studies are completed before any projects are implemented. All applicable standards & guidelines (Australian, EU, AQUIS, HACCP, Australian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines etc.) should be adhered to, and care should be taken to ensure water and wastewater minimisation programs do not negatively impact health or processing operations.