



## Birregurra Sustainable Communities Water Update

As the weather warms up, we're continuing to reach out and support customers with leaks and/or higher than usual water usage. It's estimated that 9% of water use can be attributed to undetected leaks so it's important to check for leaks regularly – even a small leak can lead to a higher than usual water bill if left unrepaired. And remember, we have a variety of support programs available to assist with leaks, so please reach out if you'd like some help.

### Feedback survey

A huge thank you to all those who provided feedback via our Birregurra Sustainable Communities – Water survey and congratulations to the 10 lucky prize winners who have won \$50 off their next water bill! Key themes identified from the survey data include: waterwise gardening, sustainable homes and connecting with the younger generation. We were also excited to receive expressions of interest from residents interested in participating in the community working group, we'll be contacting these residents over the coming weeks. Feedback and ideas received will be used to help inform the next stage of the sustainable communities program. To find out

more and for the list of the prize winners visit [www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birregurra](http://www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birregurra). If you would like to participate in the community working group to help shape the Birregurra Sustainable Communities program, please contact Sandra [sandra.brady@barwonwater.vic.gov.au](mailto:sandra.brady@barwonwater.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 656 007.

### Waterwise tips for summer

We expect water usage to increase in Birregurra over the summer months with people enjoying spending more time outdoors and in their backyards with family and friends. We want you to enjoy your time outdoors, but it's important to be mindful of your water use to help conserve water and protect our local environment. If you have a backyard pool or spa, having a pool cover or blanket is an essential accessory. An uncovered pool can lose up to 55,000 litres of water a year through evaporation. A pool cover can reduce evaporation by up to 97% and keep the water warm until you're ready to take a dip. Covers are also an easy and effective way to keep the bugs and garden debris out, which means less cleaning, and a cover will also help keep energy bills lower. If you have a fountain or water feature at your home, make sure it recirculates the water (almost all of them do) and use a broom instead of a hose to keep paved areas and hard surfaces clean. For more tips and advice on saving water visit [www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au](http://www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au).

### Water supply upgrade community drop-in

We've commenced construction on the new underground pipeline that will connect Birregurra to Colac's water supply. The upgrade will ensure we can continue to provide high quality, affordable and secure services for our existing customers, as well as cater for future growth. We've hosted a few community pop-ups over recent months to provide the community with more information about the new water supply and to answer questions. To stay up-to-date about the water supply project, please visit [www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birre-upgrade](http://www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birre-upgrade).

For further details on the Birregurra Sustainable Communities – Water program and our Living Laboratory project, visit [www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birregurra](http://www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birregurra).

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