

REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITIES IN PARTNERSHIP



SOUTH-WEST VICTORIA

WANNON WATER
GLENELG HOPKINS CMA
SOUTHERN RURAL WATER



There are three key agencies that work together to manage our water resources in south-west Victoria. Sometimes their boundaries overlap, but each organisation has quite a different role and each offers their customers different services.

Southern Rural Water manages and monitors the use of water for stock and domestic, irrigation and commercial purposes. It assesses licence applications and, if approved, issues licences to construct new farm dams and bores. It manages new and existing groundwater and surface water licences.



SOUTHERN RURAL WATER

In the south west of Victoria, Southern Rural Water (SRW) is responsible for implementing the Government's regulations and policy for surface and groundwater in accordance with the Water Act (1989).

SRW manages an area covering the entire south of Victoria, from the Great Dividing Range south to the ocean.

Southern Rural Water:

- Assesses licence applications for the construction of new farm dams and bores
- Manages new and existing groundwater and surface water licences and monitors the use of this water according to licence conditions
- Assesses and manages temporary and permanent water transfers.

SRW staff provide advice to farmers and irrigators on licensing issues and work within their local communities to ensure that licence holders operate within their licence conditions at all times. SRW also supports the development and implementation of groundwater and streamflow management plans and the installation of meters where necessary.

SRW's main business centres are located at Warrnambool, Maffra and Werribee.

Phone: 1300 139 510
www.srw.com.au

WANNON WATER

Wannon Water was formed on July 1, 2005 as a result of the amalgamation of three regional water authorities; Glenelg Region Water, Portland Coast Water and South West Water. It provides services to approximately 70,000 people.

Wannon Water's service area extends from the South Australian border in the west, to Balmoral in the north, to Lismore in the east and across to Port Campbell on the coast.

Wannon Water's primary functions include:

- The collection and storage of water
- Filtration and/or disinfection and delivery of water
- The collection and treatment of wastewater.

Wannon Water operates in an area of over 24,000 kms², to 34 different customer zones including residential, commercial and industrial customers. Wannon Water also supplies a significant rural customer base. Wannon Water has offices based in Camperdown, Hamilton, Portland and Warrnambool.

Water is a precious resource. Wannon Water is actively pursuing ways in which we can all save and conserve our water usage.

Phone: 1300 926 666
www.wannonwater.com.au

Wannon Water supplies the water that comes into our homes and businesses and manages the wastewater that leaves our homes and businesses.

Glenelg Hopkins CMA is the caretaker of river health in the region. It facilitates and carries out works to protect and enhance the quality of water and the condition of rivers.

This brochure aims to clarify the major roles and responsibilities of each agency.

GLENELG HOPKINS CMA

The Glenelg Hopkins CMA is one of ten Catchment Management Authorities across Victoria, established under the Catchment and Land Protection Act (1994) and the Water Act (1989). It is responsible for developing and managing catchments and waterways, implementing government policies and identifying regional priorities for funding.

The Glenelg Hopkins catchment encompasses the Glenelg, Hopkins and Portland Coast Basins lying south of the Great Dividing Range in south-west Victoria. The region covers approx. 25,000 square kms, and is roughly bounded by the townships of Ballarat, Warrnambool, Nelson, Harrow and Ararat.

The Glenelg Hopkins CMA:

- Implements the regional catchment strategy through a range of waterway protection and enhancement projects
- Monitors and reports on the health of the catchment, particularly the condition and management of river health
- Promotes community awareness of catchment health issues
- Provides advice and recommendations to the government

The Glenelg Hopkins CMA is based in Hamilton, with regional offices in Warrnambool, Portland, Ararat and Casterton.

Phone: 03 5571 2526

www.glenelg-hopkins.vic.gov.au



WATER FACTS

IN THE TOWNS...



TAPS

- Standard taps usually run at 15 to 20 litres per minute. Taps fitted with aerators reduce flows by up to 50% and provide softer water with less splashing.
- Single lever mixer taps are also recommended because the lever action mixes hot and cold water, while making it available instantly.



WASHING MACHINES

- Use 'AAA' or better, rated machines. 'AAA' machines use about half the amount of water per kilogram compared to less efficient models.
- About one quarter of in-house water is used in the laundry, so compare the water and energy use of different machines and get the most efficient one that meets your budget.
- Front loading machines also use less water than top loaders of the same size.



DUAL FLUSH TOILET

- A dual flush toilet uses two to three litres less per flush compared to a single flush toilet. On an average of 10 flushes per day per household this amounts to a saving of between 7.3 and 11 kilolitres per year.
- Also check your toilet for leaks on a regular basis!



SHOWER HEAD

- 'AAA' water efficient shower roses can reduce water flows to nine litres per minute, compared to some that use 22 litres a minute.
- So for a five-minute shower you can save up to 65 litres, or 23.7 kilolitres per person per year.
- To keep your shower time down put on your favourite song and see if you can finish your shower by the time the song ends.



GARDEN MULCH

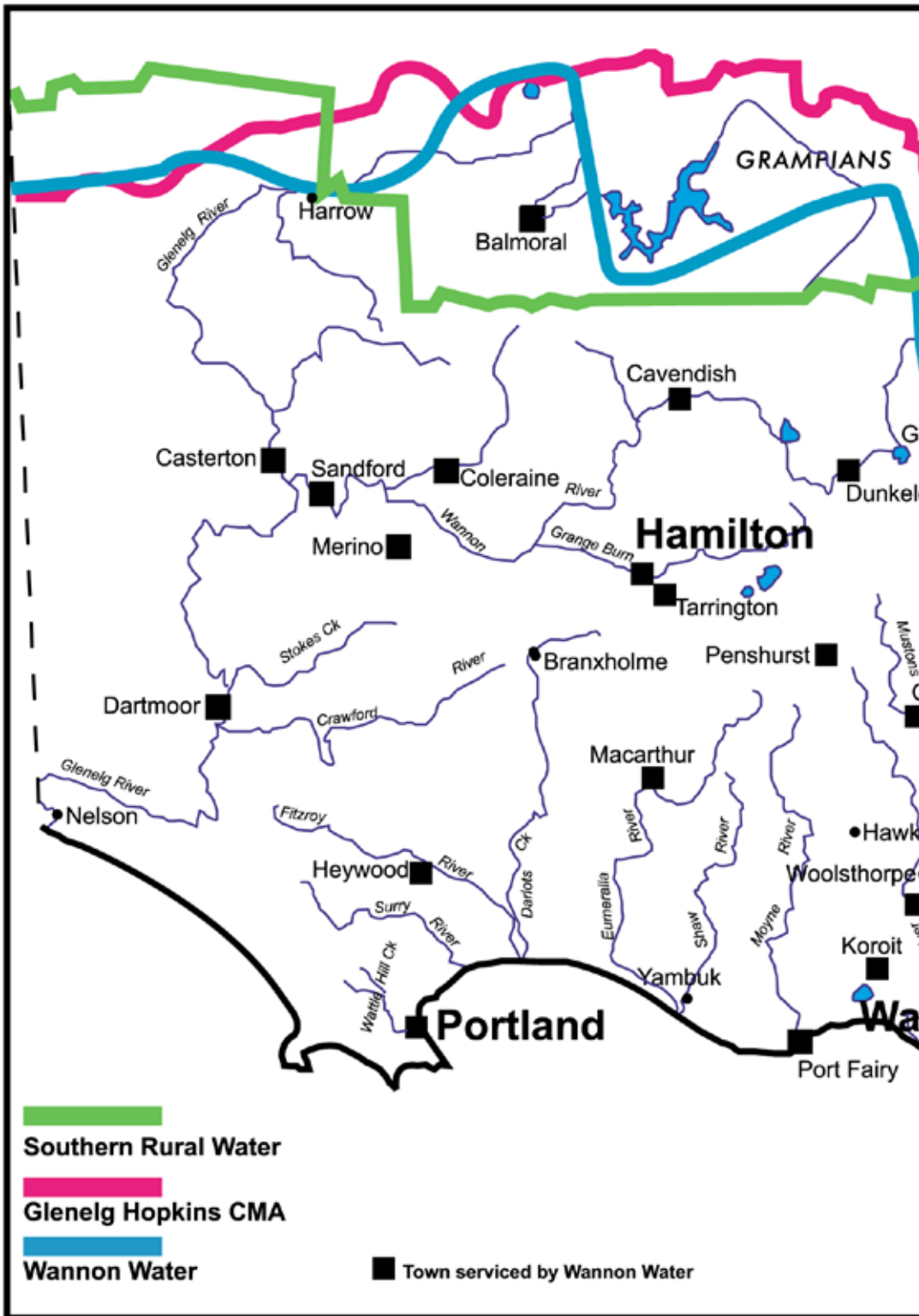
- Mulching can reduce evaporation loss from soil surface by as much as 75%. Mulch should be spread over the entire planted area to a minimum thickness of 75mm.

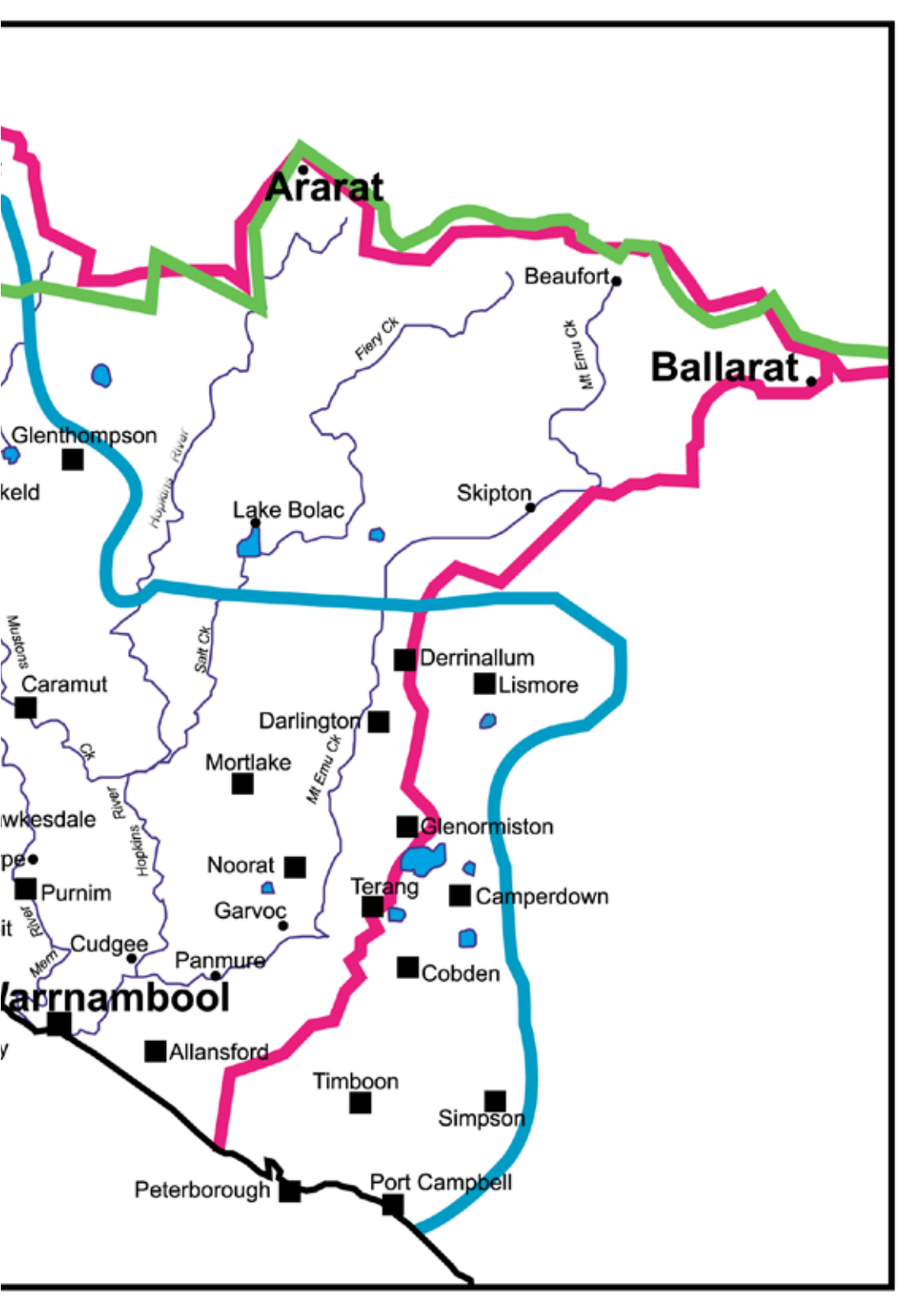


STORMWATER

- Any rain that falls on the roof of your house, or collects on paved areas like driveways, roads and footpaths will eventually end up in our waterways, taking with it sediment, leaves, silt, oils, chemicals and rubbish.
- You can help reduce the amount of pollution entering our rivers by not hosing or sweeping litter into the kerb, composting garden waste back onto garden beds, and by disposing of pet droppings in the bin.
- Cigarette butts take 1-5 years to break down. A plastic bag can take 10-20 years, and plastic and glass bottles can hang around forever!

WATER FACTS





OUT IN THE COUNTRY...

GET A LICENCE

- Water is a scarce resource! You must have a licence from SRW before you take and use water from a waterway, dam or bore if you are using the water for commercial or irrigation purposes.

DAMS

- Dam walls can get damaged over time and may leak water, or worse, collapse altogether. Regular inspections will provide an early warning of changes or problems with your dam.
- Fill your on-farm storage during winter so that you have water to maintain your summer crops if bans or restrictions are in place.

WATER BORES

- A water bore is a valuable farm asset. Maintain your bore and regularly check its yield and flow rates.

IRRIGATION

- Avoid irrigating in windy weather - the wind increases evaporation and affects watering patterns.

DAIRY EFFLUENT

- Washing your dairy down with recycled water can reduce water consumption by up to 75%.

BY THE STREAMSIDE...

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- Regular testing tells us how healthy our rivers are, where works need to be done and where existing works are having an effect.

TREE PLANTING

- Trees, shrubs and grasses help provide habitat for wildlife. They also provide shelter for stock, reduce the affects of erosion and salinity, and increase property value.
- Streamside plantings help improve water quality, habitat for fish, can limit the spread of weeds and algae, and stabilise river banks.

FENCING OUR WATERWAYS

- Fencing along waterways keeps stock out of water and away from growing trees. This means reduced erosion and less pollution in the water.

WETLANDS

- The Glenelg Hopkins region contains 44% of Victoria's wetlands.
- Wetland plants act as a filter, and reduce the amount of pollution entering our rivers.
- Wetland birds are extraordinary pest controllers - just 100 straw necked Ibis can consume 25,000 insects per day!

ESTUARIES

- Estuarine plants help filter the water before it enters the ocean, prevent erosion and stabilise the shoreline. Estuaries also serve as an important habitat for wildlife.

FISH LADDERS

- 70% of native fish species in Victoria's coastal drainage network need to migrate at some stage of their lifecycle. Fish ladders allow easier passage past barriers such as weirs, dams and road crossings.



who's looking after your water?

ACTIVITY	WANNON WATER	SOUTHERN RURAL WATER	GLENELG HOPKINS CMA
Storage of untreated water in reservoirs*	✓		
Treatment of water for delivery to homes in cities & towns	✓		
Delivery of drinking quality water to homes in cities & towns	✓		
Management and monitoring of drinking quality water in cities & towns	✓		
Management of stormwater from cities & towns**			✓
Management of wastewater from cities & towns	✓		
Monitoring & management of treated wastewater in cities & towns***	✓		
Delivery of untreated water to farms*	✓	✓	
Management, monitoring & issuing of licences to take & use water from waterways, aquifers, dams & bores for domestic & stock, irrigation or commercial purposes		✓	
Authorise the construction of new dams and bores on farms		✓	
Metering the licensed use of water from waterways, aquifers, dams & bores		✓	
Assessment & management of applications to transfer water used on a farm on a temporary or permanent basis		✓	
Implementation of the Victorian Government's streamflow & groundwater management plans		✓	
Monitoring river flows		✓	✓
Monitoring & reporting on water quality***	✓		✓
Management of river health			✓
Management of water catchment areas	✓		✓
Management of floodplains & drainage			✓
Management of environmental flows			✓
Management & issuing of permits for works on waterways			✓
Streamside enhancement works (such as fencing, salinity & erosion control & revegetation)			✓

* SRW does not have this responsibility in south-west Victoria, but does elsewhere in its region.

** Local councils have principle responsibility for this.

*** This responsibility is also shared by the Environment Protection Agency and Department of Human Services.



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