



# **Water Use Policy**

## GOULBURN MULWAREE COUNCIL WATER USE POLICY

### POLICY OBJECTIVE

To provide a water use management framework for Goulburn City and the Marulan Township.

### LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

*Local Government Act 1993*

*Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*

### POLICY STATEMENT

This Policy applies to all residential and business properties within the reticulated areas of Goulburn Mulwaree, specifically Goulburn City and the Marulan Township.

The Water Use Policy has 3 distinct levels of permanent water conservation measures based on total storage volume and HSP bulk water transfer triggers. These triggers will vary depending on demand, population growth and time and will be reviewed annually.

#### Green level:

- Green Level is triggered when HSP bulk transfers are not required as defined in the HSP Operations Plan (refer to Appendix A)
- Target consumption of 270 litres per person per day
- Handheld hose with a control nozzle or bucket can be used at any time to water plants and lawns
- Watering systems and hose sprinklers can only be used between 5pm and 10am
- Paths, driveways and hard surfaces can be cleaned with a low volume, high pressure machine. They cannot be cleaned using a hose. In extraordinary circumstances for example following a flood or health threatening incident, a hose can be used to assist to clean up
- Vehicles can be washed at any time on a lawn or porous surface using a hose with a control nozzle, bucket or low volume high pressure machine
- Private pools can only be filled when a water offset plan (refer Appendix B) for that residence has been met, including the mandatory use of a pool cover when the pool is not in use.

#### Amber level:

- Amber Level is triggered at the commencement of HSP minimum bulk transfers as defined in the HSP Operations Plan (refer to Appendix A)
- Target consumption of 230 litres per person per day
- Hand held hose with a control nozzle or bucket can only be used between 5pm and 10am to water plants and lawns
- Watering systems and hose sprinklers can only be used between 5pm and 10am on weekends
- Paths, driveways and hard surfaces cannot be cleaned. In extraordinary circumstances for example following a flood or health threatening incident, a hose can be used to assist to clean up
- Vehicles can be washed at any time on a lawn or porous surface using a hose with a control nozzle, bucket or low volume high pressure machine
- Private pools can only be filled when a water offset plan (refer Appendix B) for that residence has been met, including the mandatory use of a pool cover when the pool is not in use.

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### Red level:

- Red Level is triggered at the commencement of HSP maximum bulk transfers as defined in the HSP Operations Plan (refer to Appendix A)
- Target consumption of 180 litres per person per day
- Handheld hose with a control nozzle or bucket can only be used between 5pm and 10am to water plants and lawns on alternate days matched to house street numbers
- Watering systems and hose sprinklers cannot be used
- Paths, driveways and hard surfaces cannot be cleaned. In extraordinary circumstances for example following a flood or health threatening incident, a hose can be used to assist to clean up
- Vehicles cannot be washed using Council's water supply system
- Private pools cannot be filled from Council's water supply system.

Customers may apply for exemptions to this policy. Exemptions may be granted depending on the individual circumstances.

At any time in response to an emergency, Council may restrict all water use to emergency use only.

Version	Council Meeting Date	Resolution	Adoption Date	Effective From
1	21 June 2011	11/199		
2	19 March 2013	13/81	10 May 2013	10 May 2013
3	3 May 2016	16/171	6 June 2013	9 June 2016
4	2 May 2017	17/148	2 May 2017	2 June 2017
5	3 May 2022	2022/145	3 May 2022	31 May 2022
6	19 August 2025	2025/192	19 August 2025	18 September 2025
<b>All policies can be reviewed or revoked by resolution of Council at anytime.</b>				

**DIRECTORATE:** Utilities

**BUSINESS UNIT:** Utilities

## Appendix A

### HSP Bulk Water Transfer Triggers

(Refer to HSP Operations Plan for further detail)

Transfer Trigger (based on Total Storage)	Annual Bulk Water Demand (ML/a)			
	<2,500 (Current)	2,500 – 3,000	3,000 – 3,500	3,500-4,000
Rossi to Sooley Transfer Triggers	70%	80%	90%	90%
HSP Triggers (minimum Transfers)	55%	65%	75%	80%
HSP Triggers (maximum transfers)	40%	50%	60%	70%

## Appendix B

### “WATER OFFSET PLAN”

**Private pools can be filled when four of the following criteria are met at the premises where the pool is located:**

- At least one rainwater tank with the capacity of 1000 litres or more has been installed to collect water that would otherwise be lost to the premises;
- Mulch is used on all garden beds;
- The pool uses a cartridge filtration system or a water efficient medium (such as recycled glass or Zeolite);
- Dual flush toilets are installed in each water closet;
- Three star showerheads are installed in each shower cubicle;
- A four star or better water efficient washing machine is installed.