

Schools Water Efficiency Program

Help your school save water and money

Our Water Our Future
A Victorian Government initiative



Help to protect the environment, save water and money. Join the Schools Water Efficiency Program.

This water audit and retrofit program is now available for your school.

The benefits include:

- ➔ Becoming water efficient without an initial outlay of funds (a special payment program applies)
- ➔ Ongoing savings on water bills
- ➔ Official recognition as a water saver school
- ➔ Linkage with the water conservation education program, Water – Learn it! Live it!

Joining the program

To join the program now:

- Complete a program agreement form* and return to the Program Manager. Program agreements can be obtained by calling the number below; or
- For further information you can attend a program seminar in your area. Alternatively, contact the Program Manager on **1300 727 599**.

Program seminars

Information seminars will be held within clusters or networks at the request of the schools, prior to the program commencing in an area. To register please fax back a registration form* to (03) 9873 5155.

Schools can join the program at the seminar.

* Agreement and seminar registration forms available by calling 1300 727 599 or from www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/swep

How the program works

1. Site audit

- Assess all indoor water using facilities and identify and quantify consumption and savings
- The audit will be based on an onsite inspection and the collation of water consumption data supplied by your local water retailer
- Develop a priority list of water saving recommendations



2. Report

- Audit findings
- Recommendations for reducing indoor water use and hot water energy costs
- Cost of implementing water efficiency measures with estimated pay back period
- Listing other water efficiency and conservation measures in priority order



3. Implement

- Installation of identified water efficiency measures which are included in the program
- Completion of installation within 3-4 weeks of the submission of the audit findings (subject to access to the school)

Table of costs

School Size (no. Students)	Category	Number of Water Efficiency Measures	Water Efficiency Service Fee (GST Inclusive)	Cost of Audit* (GST Inclusive)	Cost of water efficiency works (GST Inclusive)
Primary <250	P1	30	\$1,733	\$842	\$891
Primary 250-500	P2	40	\$2,226	\$1,038	\$1,188
Primary 500-800	P3	60	\$3,137	\$1,355	\$1,782
Primary >800	P4	80	\$4,010	\$1,634	\$2,376
Secondary <450	S1	60	\$3,137	\$1,355	\$1,782
Secondary 450-800	S2	80	\$3,979	\$1,603	\$2,376
Secondary 800-1,200	S3	110	\$5,199	\$1,932	\$3,267
Secondary >1,200	S4	130	\$6,249	\$2,388	\$3,861

* The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will fund the audit component of the program for government schools.

Schools Water Efficiency Program achievements

'The Schools Water Efficiency Program has proven to deliver time and time again great results in the field of water conservation. Many of Yarra Valley Water's customers have adopted the program and achieved some remarkable water savings and greenhouse gas reductions by using less hot water. I would urge all schools to investigate participating in this program.'

Tony Kelly, Managing Director, Yarra Valley Water

Schools who have participated:

2006 consumption (KL/yr)	935,282
Estimated new consumption (KL/yr)	819,811
Total estimated water savings (KL/yr)	115,471
Estimated average savings (%)	14.0
Total estimated savings	\$231,189
Estimated average savings per school (KL/yr)	376
Estimated payback period per school (years)	3.1

1 Kilolitre (KL) = 1,000 Litres.

Payment

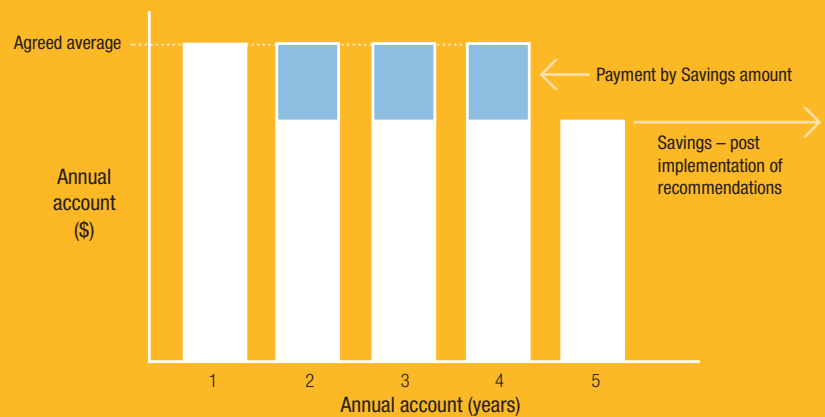
Two types of payment options are available:

- **Payment by Savings** – pay for the costs of the program by instalments based on the estimated savings from water and energy bills
- **Single payment** – full payment at the completion of the works

Accreditation

Upon completion of the program, schools will receive official recognition as a water saver school

Payment by Savings



Case studies

Templeton Primary School (Wantirna South)

'The Schools Water Efficiency Program has not only given us immediate savings but has provided the school with great potential to undertake environmental programs and studies which we would not have been able to consider otherwise.'

Les Boag, Principal – Templeton Primary School

Students	588
Staff	41
Annual water consumption (KL)	2,943
Annual savings (KL)	409
Annual savings (%)	13.9
Total annual cost savings	\$677
Water efficiency services	\$1,500
Payback period (months)	26.6

Barwon Heads Primary School

'A quick audit followed by the implementation of simple and effective devices has saved us a lot of water. It was so easy I can't believe we hadn't done it earlier. And the extra recommendations gave a clear path to follow for us to continue with further installations and make further water savings.'

Peter Crossett, Principal – Barwon Heads Primary School

Students	274
Staff	25
Annual water consumption (KL)	1,789
Annual savings (KL)	309
Annual savings (%)	17.3
Total annual cost savings	\$568
Water efficiency services	\$975
Payback period (months)	20.6

Templestowe College

'The savings made through the Schools Water Efficiency Program are being directed to further sustainability projects and the development of associated learning units.'

Andrew Minko, Assistant Principal – Templestowe College

Students	651
Staff	51
Annual water consumption (KL)	6,235
Annual savings (KL)	1,510
Annual savings (%)	24.2
Total annual cost savings	\$2,681
Water efficiency services	\$2,000
Payback period (months)	9.0

Frequently asked questions

➔ What is the aim of the program?

The Schools Water Efficiency Program will allow every Victorian school connected to a reticulated water supply system to identify and implement low cost solutions to achieve indoor water savings. If the audit reveals that water savings can't be made, there will be no investment in works.

➔ How can schools save water?

A trial of 26 schools' internal water use has shown there are many opportunities for water efficiency improvements, such as flow control valves on hand basins and water fountains, and targeting water leaks. Measures such as these can result in most schools achieving between 5 and 30 per cent in water savings.

➔ Why is the program targeted at indoor water use?

A previous pilot program identified indoor water use as an easy way to achieve significant savings for a relatively small investment. Schools may choose to follow up this program by arranging for their outdoor water use to be audited at a later date at their own cost.

➔ Will small schools be able to identify real savings?

The pilot program included some smaller schools (less than 250 students) which identified real savings. Works will only be undertaken on schools that can achieve significant savings.

➔ What about schools that have already done the audits and made water efficiency upgrades?

Schools that have already undergone internal upgrades will not be disadvantaged. All schools that undertake the audit process will receive recognition for their efforts. Schools that have completed water efficiency works outside this program will also qualify for official recognition as water saver schools.

➔ How will shutting off the water affect students and staff during school hours?

Plumbers will work with schools to ensure minimal disruption to supplies. The assistance of schools is required to minimise the time taken to do the required works. Students may be required to bring water bottles for use during class time, water could be turned on at recess and lunch for toilet breaks. Each school will be approached by the plumber to determine the best process for the school in question.

➔ How do schools sign up to the program, and who will be responsible for this?

In most cases the Principal will sign up to the program, however in some schools it could be the business manager or school council. Ultimately it will rest with whoever has the ability to make decisions about the schools expenditure. They will be required to complete a program agreement form and return to the program manager.

➔ What happens if we need additional water efficiency measures (flow control valves, leak repairs or cistern adjustments) to the number nominated and offered in the program package?

You will receive a quotation for the supply and installation of the extra number of water efficiency measures. If you agree to this quote, they can be installed at the same time as the nominated number. This extra cost can be added to the payment by savings option or to your direct payment invoice.

➔ What happens if we need fewer water efficiency measures (flow control valves, leak repairs or cistern adjustments) than the number nominated and offered in the program package?

Your water services efficiency fee will be adjusted to reflect the reduced number of measures implemented.

➔ What if we do not fully realise the potential savings?

The audit process is for internal water use only (ie. taps, toilets, urinals and leak repairs). The savings estimated are achievable for student and staff numbers at the time of the audit. Future growth in student and/or staff numbers will reflect proportionally in water consumption and subsequent savings.

Changes in water volume used in irrigation, other external uses or undetected leaks which are outside the control of the auditor may also affect the full realisation of potential savings.

➔ If schools save money on water bills, does that mean they will receive less funding in the long run from the Government?

No – all government schools are expected to participate in the Schools Water Efficiency Program. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) has advised that school's funding will not be reduced as a result of participation in this program.

➔ Where can I find out more information?

Visit www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/swep for more information or call **1300 727 599**.

Schools Water Efficiency Program

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Program Managers:

Water & Energy Savers (Vic) Pty Ltd

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Email swep@vic.water.net.au Telephone **1300 727 599** Facsimile **(03) 9873 5155**

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