

# waterMAPs

Securing Victoria's water supplies

To help secure the State's water supplies, the Victorian Government is asking everyone to continue to play their part in conserving this precious resource.

Under the Water Act 1989 and Water Industry Act 1993, major water users are required to improve their water efficiency through the implementation of their own water Management Action Plan (waterMAP). All waterMAPs must be submitted to the relevant local water corporation.

Our Water Our Future

A Victorian  
Government  
initiative



# waterMAPs

## What is the purpose of a waterMAP?

A waterMAP requires eligible non-residential water customers to:

- Assess their current water use
- Identify inefficiencies and opportunities for water savings
- Prepare an action plan to implement water conservation activities
- Annually report on implementation of water conservation activities

## What happens if your business already has a water management plan?

The top 200 non-residential water consumers in Melbourne have already developed water management plans under the Victorian Government's Pathways to Sustainability program. Over 6 billion litres of water has been saved since 2001 through this program, representing a 13 per cent efficiency gain.

Regional Victorian businesses and other organisations like local councils have also developed plans to increase water efficiency.

These plans may be approved as a waterMAP providing the relevant water corporation is satisfied that the plan meets the criteria set out in the waterMAP handbook.

Customers who are believed to have already completed a plan or similar program will be contacted directly by their water corporation as to their requirements to complete a waterMAP.

## How the waterMAP initiative works

- Non-residential customers using 10 ML a year or more of potable (drinking) water at any one site from an urban supply will need to prepare a waterMAP.
- Eligible customers include businesses, local council sites, hospitals, schools and primary industries using urban supplies, as well as community groups and commercially operated residential style properties classified as non-residential under the Victorian Planning Provisions, using 10 ML a year or more.
- Eligible customers are required to complete a waterMAP by **31 December 2007**.
- Existing non-residential customers who do not currently use 10ML a year will receive three months notice to submit a waterMAP if their level of consumption increases to 10ML a year or more.
- New non-residential customers that the local water corporation estimates will use 10 ML a year or more will be required to complete a waterMAP before connection to the water supply.

## Are waterMAPs mandatory?

Yes. Eligible customers are required to:

- Register their intention to prepare a waterMAP
- Develop a waterMAP
- Submit their waterMAP to the local water corporation
- Report annually to the water corporation on their implementation of the waterMAP.

Penalties can apply to businesses and other non-residential sites that do not comply with these requirements in accordance with the set timeframes.

## How much water is your organisation expected to save?

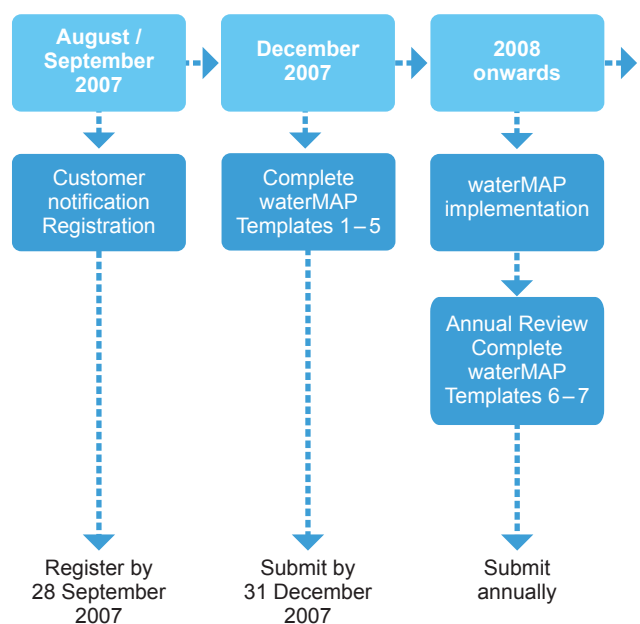
When developing a waterMAP it is recommended that businesses seek to achieve a 10 per cent reduction in water use. Current non-residential water saving programs have identified this as a water savings benchmark. If efficiency gains are less, you will need to demonstrate that your organisation is already operating at best practice, ensuring past efficiency gains are recognised.

Savings are expected to be achieved progressively from 2008.

## Developing your waterMAP: the five step process

1. Register with your water corporation by 28 September 2007. A registration form is attached to this brochure and in the waterMAP Handbook ([Refer Template 1 pg 25 guidance handbook](#)).
2. Complete waterMAP Templates 2 to 5 in your Guidance Handbook and lodge them with your local water corporation by 31 December 2007. This includes an analysis of how water is used on site and identification of actions to improve water efficiency and reduce water consumption.
3. Implement your waterMAP. Actions in your waterMAP are to be implemented according to the timelines in Template 5.
4. Report annually on your waterMAP to your water corporation using Templates 6 – 7 ([pg 28-29 Guidance Handbook](#)).
5. Improve your waterMAP. Your local water corporation can help you develop your waterMAP and will review it on receipt. If your waterMAP does not meet the criteria outlined in the handbook, the water corporation will notify you and work with you to improve it.

The waterMAP Handbook includes all the information required to develop a waterMAP. The waterMAP Handbook is available from your local water corporation.



## Support tools to help develop your waterMAP

Local water corporations and peak industry bodies may be able to help you to complete your waterMAP through government or water corporation-funded assistance, site audits, or training.

For more information on how to gain assistance, please contact your local water corporation.

## How do waterMAPs relate to the proposed Environment and Resource Efficiency Plans?

In 2008, Victoria's major industrial and commercial consumers of energy and water will be required to prepare an Environment and Resource Efficiency Plan (EREP) under the Environment Protection (Amendment) Act 2006.

Some major customers with a waterMAP for a site may need an EREP and be required to register with EPA Victoria. They will be required to submit their waterMAP and provide annual reports on the implementation and outcomes of their waterMAP. The EPA and DSE will further align the two programs to avoid any duplication of processes.

Water corporations will work with customers and the EPA to develop a waterMAP that meets the requirements of the EREP program.

If you think the site you operate will require an EREP, please contact your local water corporation.

# Contacts

For further information on the EREP program please contact EPA Victoria directly.

EREP Project Manager  
Regulatory Innovation Unit  
EPA Victoria  
GPO Box 4395QQ  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001  
Email: [erep@epa.vic.gov.au](mailto:erep@epa.vic.gov.au)

Your local water corporation <insert name of corporation and contact persons>

Phone: <insert No>

Web:< insert web address>

### Other sources of assistance and advice

VicWater

Department of Sustainability and Environment:

Our Water Our Future

Australian Industry Group

Plastics and Chemical Industries Association

Victorian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Grow Me the Money

Property Council

Textile Rental and Laundry Association of Australia

Alternative Technology Association

Environment Protection Authority

Plumbing Industry Commission

Australian Institute of Refrigeration Air Conditioning and Heating

Facilities Management Association of Australia

Water efficiency labelling standards

[www.vicwater.org.au](http://www.vicwater.org.au)

[www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au)

[www.ourwater.vic.gov.au](http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au)

[www.aigroup.asn.au](http://www.aigroup.asn.au)

[www.pacia.org.au](http://www.pacia.org.au)

[www.vecci.org.au](http://www.vecci.org.au)

[www.growmethemoney.com.au](http://www.growmethemoney.com.au)

[www.propertyoz.com.au](http://www.propertyoz.com.au)

[www.trlaa.com.au](http://www.trlaa.com.au)

[www.ata.org.au](http://www.ata.org.au)

[www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au)

[www.pic.vic.gov.au](http://www.pic.vic.gov.au)

[www.airah.org.au](http://www.airah.org.au)

[www.fma.com.au](http://www.fma.com.au)

[www.waterrating.gov.au](http://www.waterrating.gov.au)

## Registration Form for each site where 10 ML or more is consumed

<b>Organisation name:</b> <b>ABN:</b>		
<b>Operating name:</b> (if different to above)		
<b>Billing account number(s):</b>		
<b>Site address:</b>		
<b>Organisation contacts</b>	<b>Senior Site Manager</b> Name: Title: Phone: Email:	<b>Other Contact</b> Name: Title: Phone: Email:
<b>Site activities description:</b>		
<b>Water consumption 2006-07 (kL/yr)</b>		
<b>Wastewater volume 2006/07 (kL/yr)</b>		
<b>Equipment</b> List of major water using equipment:		<b>Estimated % of water consumed</b>
Cooling tower		
Taps, showers, toilets, urinals		
Washdown equipment		
Sterilising equipment		
Production process		
Irrigation		
Other (attach separate list):		
		Total 100%
<b>Details of existing water conservation initiatives</b>	2004/05	
	2005/06	
	2006/07	
<b>Identify the names of any peak industry body of which the business is a member</b>		

### Office Use:

Registration accepted by: (name)

Registration number:

Registration accepted on: (date)