

MEDIA RELEASE

Phil Costa
Minister for Water
Minister for Corrective Services



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MINISTER REVEALS ANNUAL WATER USE REPORT CARD

The Keneally Government has released its annual water use report card, listing the most efficient water users in Sydney, the Blue Mountains, the Illawarra and, for the first time, the Hunter.

NSW Minister for Water Phil Costa said the latest figures showed residents were keeping up the good water use habits developed in years of drought.

“Water efficiency continues to be a top priority for the Keneally Government, and we have invested heavily in a range of rebates and offers to make it easy for householders to use less water around the home,” Minister Costa said.

“With more than two thirds of the water used in the Sydney, Illawarra and Hunter metropolitan areas used by households, it’s great to see residents continuing to use water wisely and helping our water supplies go further.

“There has been a real culture change over the past few years, and these figures show water efficiency is now well and truly a part of everyday life.

“People recognise the importance of using water wisely, and these figures reflect that.

“Council areas in Sydney’s inner west, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra have dominated the top ten for the last few years, and I congratulate residents of these regions for continuing to use water wisely.

“This trend has continued, with Kiama residents retaining the top spot as the most efficient region for the seventh consecutive year – an outstanding result, and a credit to the region.

“Water use data for the Hunter has been included in the report for the first time this year, and it’s fantastic to see the region well represented in the top ten most water efficient areas – with Newcastle taking out third spot.”

The top 10 most water efficient areas in 2009-10 were:

- Kiama – average household uses 159,000 litres a year
- Leichhardt – average household uses 166,000 litres a year
- Newcastle – average household uses 167,000 litres a year
- Blue Mountains – average household uses 168,000 litres a year
- Sydney – average household uses 180,000 litres a year
- Wollongong – average household uses 181,000 litres a year
- Marrickville – average household uses 185,000 litres a year
- Lake Macquarie – average household uses 186,000 litres a year
- Shellharbour – average household uses 188,000 litres a year
- Port Stephens – average household uses 188,000 litres a year

“The Keneally Government continues to offer a range of rebates and offers to help these households make water efficiency a part of day-to-day life, and I encourage residents to consider taking up one of these offers.

“By continuing to improve water efficiency around the home, these residents will see real water savings well into the future – which means more water for the community at large, and of course lower water bills for householders.

“I congratulate the tens of thousands of householders who have taken steps to improve water efficiency around the home.

“A special mention goes to the areas of Wollongong, Sutherland and Blacktown, which feature in the top ten areas with the highest uptake of each of the water efficiency offers.

“Western Sydney in particular is playing a leading role in improving water efficiency, with Penrith, Campbelltown, Parramatta and The Hills Shire all featuring heavily in the top ten areas with the highest uptake of rebates and offers.”

Minister Costa said water efficiency offers available included:

- Up to \$1500 rebate on rainwater tanks
- \$200 rebate on replacing a single flush toilet with a new, water efficient dual-flush toilet
- WaterFix water efficient plumbing service to install a water efficient showerhead and flow regulators on taps – from \$22 (Sydney, the Illawarra and the Blue Mountains only)
- \$150 rebate on installing a hot water circulator for instantaneous hot water systems.

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Water use by Local Government Area 2009-10

Local Government Area	Average water use ('000s of litres)
KIAMA	159
LEICHHARDT	166
NEWCASTLE	167
BLUE MOUNTAINS	168
SYDNEY	180
WOLLONGONG	181
MARRICKVILLE	185
LAKE MACQUARIE	186
SHELLHARBOUR	188
PORT STEPHENS	188
CESSNOCK	193
WINGECARRIBEE	199
DUNOG	199
MAITLAND	208
NORTH SYDNEY	209
BLACKTOWN	214
CANADA BAY	217
HOLROYD	219
HURSTVILLE	219
RYDE	219
ASHFIELD	220
CAMPBELLTOWN	220
PARRAMATTA	221
HORNSBY	222
PITTWATER	222
SUTHERLAND	222
BOTANY BAY	224
WARRINGAH	224
BANKSTOWN	227
MANLY	227
WILLOUGHBY	229
WOLLONDILLY	229
PENRITH	230
RANDWICK	230
WAVERLEY	230
CANTERBURY	232
ROCKDALE	232
LANE COVE	234
KOGARAH	235
AUBURN	236
HAWKESBURY	241
BURWOOD	242
CAMDEN	242
LIVERPOOL	242
FAIRFIELD	243
THE HILLS SHIRE	247
KURING-GAI	271
STRATHFIELD	273
MOSMAN	292
HUNTERS HILL	294
WOOLLAHRA	326

Hunter

Local Government Area	Average water use ('000s of litres)
NEWCASTLE	167
LAKE MACQUARIE	186
PORT STEPHENS	188
CESSNOCK	193
DUNOG	199
MAITLAND	208

Illawarra

Local Government Area	Average water use ('000s of litres)
KIAMA	159
WOLLONGONG	181
SHELLHARBOUR	188

Rainwater Tank Rebate uptake by Local Government area to 30 June 2010

Local Government Area	Rebates paid to 30/6/10
WOLLONGONG	8221
SUTHERLAND	3926
BLUE MOUNTAINS	3527
SHELLHARBOUR	2971
HORNSBY	2860
PENRITH	2770
BLACKTOWN	2527
THE HILLS SHIRE	2434
KURING-GAI	2262
WARRINGAH	1797
CAMPBELLTOWN	1615
FAIRFIELD	1481
BANKSTOWN	1359
LIVERPOOL	1285
PARRAMATTA	1260
PITTWATER	1245
WOLLONDILLY	1176
CAMDEN	1081
BOTANY BAY	1043
KIAMA	972
HOLROYD	950
RYDE	943
HAWKESBURY	942
WILLOUGHBY	852
RANDWICK	748
HURSTVILLE	736
CANTERBURY	693
CANADA BAY	590
LAKE MACQUARIE	538
KOGARAH	536
ROCKDALE	401
LANE COVE	390
MARRICKVILLE	365
MANLY	363
NEWCASTLE	322
LEICHHARDT	300
MOSMAN	300
ASHFIELD	278
WOOLLAHRA	256
AUBURN	253
HUNTERS HILL	250
MAITLAND	243
WAVERLEY	241
PORT STEPHENS	236
NORTH SYDNEY	220
CESSNOCK	193
STRATHFIELD	191
BURWOOD	146
DUNGOG	139
SYDNEY	139

Hunter

Local Government Area	Rebates paid to 30/6/10
LAKE MACQUARIE	538
NEWCASTLE	322
MAITLAND	243
PORT STEPHENS	236
CESSNOCK	193
DUNGOG	139

Illawarra

Local Government Area	Rebates paid to 30/6/10
WOLLONGONG	8221
SHELLHARBOUR	2971
KIAMA	972

Dual flush toilet rebate uptake by Local Government area to 30 June 2010*

Local Government Area	Rebates paid to 30/6/10
HORNSBY	1817
SUTHERLAND	1660
BLACKTOWN	1480
THE HILLS SHIRE	1406
CAMPBELLTOWN	1331
WOLLONGONG	1145
WARRINGAH	1106
PENRITH	1050
PARRAMATTA	889
BLUE MOUNTAINS	885
BANKSTOWN	816
FAIRFIELD	770
KURING-GAI	767
RYDE	731
RANDWICK	529
ROCKDALE	510
CANTERBURY	500
HURSTVILLE	483
LIVERPOOL	446
SYDNEY	439
PITTWATER	389
HOLROYD	379
SHELLHARBOUR	347
MARRICKVILLE	305
KOGARAH	296
WILLOUGHBY	284
CANADA BAY	247
HAWKESBURY	224
NORTH SYDNEY	210
LANE COVE	197
ASHFIELD	192
CAMDEN	188
WAVERLEY	177
LEICHHARDT	168
WOLLONDILLY	165
MANLY	164
AUBURN	162
BOTANY BAY	143
KIAMA	129
WOOLLAHRA	129
BURWOOD	111
LAKE MACQUARIE	107
STRATHFIELD	98
NEWCASTLE	77
MOSMAN	76
HUNTERS HILL	60
PORT STEPHENS	29
MAITLAND	8
CESSNOCK	5

Hunter

Local Government Area	Uptake to 30/6/10
LAKE MACQUARIE	107
NEWCASTLE	77
PORT STEPHENS	29
MAITLAND	8
CESSNOCK	5

Illawarra

Local Government Area	Uptake to 30/6/10
WOLLONGONG	1145
SHELLHARBOUR	347
KIAMA	129

* Toilet Replacement Service available in the Hunter from June 2010

WaterFix uptake by Local Government area to 30 June 2010**

Local Government Area	Rebates paid to 30/6/10
BLACKTOWN	36999
WOLLONGONG	27565
SUTHERLAND	23977
CAMPBELLTOWN	22541
PENRITH	21917
BANKSTOWN	21451
FAIRFIELD	20680
LIVERPOOL	18934
PARRAMATTA	18734
SYDNEY	17847
HORNSBY	16835
THE HILLS SHIRE	15912
WARRINGAH	14777
CANTERBURY	13952
RANDWICK	13823
RYDE	12421
HOLROYD	11065
BLUE MOUNTAINS	11059
ROCKDALE	9984
KURING-GAI	9916
SHELLHARBOUR	9694
HURSTVILLE	9072
MARRICKVILLE	7635
CANADA BAY	6817
WAVERLEY	6150
AUBURN	5699
WILLOUGHBY	5665
KOGARAH	5611
LEICHHARDT	5398
CAMDEN	5348
PITTWATER	5241
NORTH SYDNEY	5114
BOTANY BAY	4650
HAWKESBURY	4059
ASHFIELD	3990
MANLY	3971
WOOLLAHRA	3582
LANE COVE	3527
STRATHFIELD	3409
WOLLONDILLY	3265
BURWOOD	2942
KIAMA	2815
MOSMAN	2238
HUNTERS HILL	1295

Illawarra

Local Government Area	Uptake to 30/6/10
WOLLONGONG	27565
SHELLHARBOUR	9694
KIAMA	2815

**WaterFix is available in Sydney, Blue Mountains and Illawarra only

Water use trend – Sydney, Illawarra and Blue Mountains

Local Govt Area	Average water use 2009-10 ('000s of litres)	Average water use 2008-09 ('000s of litres)	Average water use 2005-06 5yr trend ('000s of litres)	Average water use 2002-03 8yr trend ('000s of litres)	8yr reduction ('000s of litres)
ASHFIELD	220	216	232	278	58
AUBURN	236	233	235	274	38
BANKSTOWN	227	222	232	275	48
BLACKTOWN	214	209	220	281	67
BLUE MOUNTAINS	168	165	173	244	76
BOTANY BAY	224	220	238	285	61
BURWOOD	242	237	253	292	50
CAMDEN	242	223	242	368	126
CAMPBELLTOWN	220	216	238	309	89
CANADA BAY	217	211	225	267	50
CANTERBURY	232	229	240	278	46
FAIRFIELD	243	236	249	305	62
HAWKESBURY	241	226	251	365	124
HOLROYD	219	212	222	259	40
HORNSBY	222	210	235	335	113
HUNTERS HILL	294	267	300	393	99
HURSTVILLE	219	213	226	275	56
KIAMA	159	157	169	215	56
KOGARAH	235	227	241	293	58
KURING-GAI	271	252	288	402	131
LANE COVE	234	222	251	320	86
LEICHHARDT	166	162	176	209	43
LIVERPOOL	242	234	246	324	82
MANLY	227	217	239	295	68
MARRICKVILLE	185	180	195	231	46
MOSMAN	292	275	297	365	73
NORTH SYDNEY	209	203	222	273	64
PARRAMATTA	221	215	226	278	57
PENRITH	230	222	236	327	97
PITTWATER	222	213	237	312	90
RANDWICK	230	222	241	292	62
ROCKDALE	232	228	239	279	47
RYDE	219	211	224	276	57
SHELLHARBOUR	188	187	198	245	57
STRATHFIELD	273	262	281	335	62
SUTHERLAND	222	214	238	306	84
SYDNEY	180	175	191	224	44
THE HILLS SHIRE	247	232	260	377	130
WARRINGAH	224	215	234	298	74
WAVERLEY	230	220	233	275	45
WILLOUGHBY	229	218	240	298	69
WINGECARRIBEE	199	182	213	679	480
WOLLONDILLY	229	219	224	323	94
WOLLONGONG	181	179	191	239	58
WOOLLAHRA	326	304	323	400	74
Average:	223	215	232	297	74

Water use trend – Hunter

Local Government Area	2009-10 (‘000s of litres)	2008-09 (‘000s of litres)	2005-06 5yr trend (‘000s of litres)		Change	
Newcastle City Council	167	164	180	▼	7.22%	13,000L
Lake Macquarie City Council	186	185	208	▼	10.58%	22,000L
Port Stephens Council	188	182	210	▼	10.48%	22,000L
Cessnock City Council	193	188	218	▼	11.47%	25,000L
Dungog Shire Council*	199	196	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maitland City Council	208	201	239	▼	12.97%	31,000L
Lower Hunter average	184	180	205	▼	10.24%	21,000L

*Hunter Water began providing services to Dungog Shire Council in 2008