

Projected reduction in wastewater discharge to 2030

Sydney Water estimates that **by 2030 water conservation measures will prevent an additional 15 billion litres of wastewater a year** from being discharged to Sydney's rivers and oceans. Sydney Water is seeking public comment on this projection by 29th June 2025. Please provide any comments via email at waterconservation@sydneywater.com.au.

Sydney Water Act 1994

Protecting the environment is fundamental to why Sydney Water exists and a principal objective under the *Sydney Water Act 1994*. Our ultimate aim is the prevention of all dry weather discharges of sewage to waters, including from ocean outfalls, except where it is necessary to safeguard public health or prevent environmental degradation). [Section 27 of the Act](#) requires us to seek public comment on our projection of wastewater (sewage or effluent) volumes that will be re-used, intercepted or otherwise prevented from discharge into the ocean, waterways and other waters.

Our draft projection for comment

By 2030 we estimate that water conservation efforts will prevent an additional 15 billion litres of wastewater a year being discharged to Sydney's rivers and oceans (Refer to **Table 1**).

This projection assumes average weather conditions and considers:

- Our 2023-24 Water Conservation Plan activities to help customers save water

through water efficiency ([Water Conservation Report](#)).

- New recycled water schemes that have approved business cases to proceed.

What next?

Your feedback will be considered in the finalisation of our projection to 2030.

What else can you do?

By saving water in your homes and at work you can help to reduce the volume of wastewater discharged into our oceans and waterways. Need help to save - check out our water saving tips on our [webpage](#).

Table 1: Draft projection of reduced wastewater discharges as a result of water conservation activities compared to 2023-24

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
<i>Additional reduction due to water efficiency (billions of litres, GL)</i>	23	26	26	28	28
<i>Additional reduction due to recycled water (billions of litres, GL)</i>	2	2	2	3	3
Total additional reduction due to water conservation from 2023-24 (billions of litres, GL)	8	12	12	14	15
<i>Population served (total, all services)</i>	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.7
Total additional reduction due to water conservation from 2023-24 (litres per person a day, LPD)	4	6	6	7	7