Water quality



Have you ever wondered how water gets to your tap at home or school?

Where does our water come from?

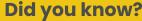
97%
ocean water
undrinkable due to high
salt content in the water.

3% freshwater

but we can only access 0.75% of this through ground water, lakes and rivers.

Did you know?

Pure, **clean water** has no colour, is transparent and has no smell.



Council treats an average of **23 megalitres** of raw water per day. That is just over nine Olympic swimming pools!

How does my water get treated

Council operates 14 water treatment plants throughout the region, four of which take raw source water and turn it into safe, clean drinking water through the following process:

- Activated carbon is added to remove taste and odours from the water.
- Charged molecules (known as coagulants) are added to activate bonding between the smaller particles to create larger floc particles.
- These larger floc particles sink to the bottom of the flocculation settling tank and travel to the drying lagoons where it will later be removed to a land fill station.
- The top clean water stream decants to a fine sand filter where it undergoes filtration.
- The filtered water undergoes a PH check and enters the stage of disinfection where chlorine is added to kill any remaining organisms that may carry disease.
- Once treated, the water is stored in reservoirs or water towers before traveling through underground pipes to your tap.

Using water wisely

Water is our most valuable resource and we need to use it wisely.

Always do the following:

- Turn off taps after washing hands and while brushing your teeth.
- Use the half flush when you can.
- Let an adult know if you notice a dripping tap or toilet so it can be fixed.
- Use a broom or rake to clean hard outdoor surfaces **instead of a hose**.
- Wash paint brushes in a small container, not under a running tap.
- Refill your **water bottle** at the bubbler rather than letting it run while you take a drink.
- Pour leftover water from your water bottle on to the garden.

Did you know?

For every litre of water you drink from a bubbler tap, **four litres** of water goes down the drain. What a waste!

P. 1 of 1

