



Monday, 19 February 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

AQWEST AND CITY OF BUNBURY LAUNCH WATER CONSERVATION STICKERS

Aqwest and the City of Bunbury have launched a campaign to encourage people to *play their part and be water smart* by reporting leaks.

Stickers will be placed on the doors of public toilets throughout the city, asking people to report leaking taps and toilets to the City of Bunbury.

The stickers feature messages "Play your part, be water smart" and "A dripping tap can waste up to 20,000 litres a year".

Stickers have also been distributed to schools in the Bunbury area with the messages: "Stop the Drop", "Slow the flow, save H2O", "Play your part be water smart" and "A dripping tap can waste up to 20,000 litres a year". The stickers ask students to report leaking taps and toilets to a teacher.

Aqwest Chair Stan Liaros said just by reporting a leak with one phone call, community members can play an important role in conserving Bunbury's water.

"A dripping tap can waste up to 20,000 litres a year," Mr Liaros said. "By reporting a leak we are adopting responsible water use practices which is essential to ensure we have a reliable water supply now and in the future."

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said the campaign was encouraging everyone to play a role in conserving water.

"Leaks can happen overnight and hundreds of litres may be lost between the routine cleaning of toilets or parks and gardens staff doing their rounds of parks and noticing a leaking tap," Mayor Brennan said.

"Water is our most precious resource, so I ask anyone who sees a leaky tap at a City of Bunbury facility, to please be water smart and report it to the City of Bunbury."

ENDS

For more information contact Monique Warnock on 9721 1907 or 0416 486 627 or City of Bunbury Media and Communications Officer Lee-Maree Gallo on 9792 7042 or 0428 201 253.

Notes to Editors

- The City of Bunbury's water is a limited resource which comes from the large underground, fresh water Yarragadee Aquifer, which stretches from South of Geraldton to Nannup.
- The Yarragadee is only recharged by rainfall which percolates through the ground, and the volume of water used by consumers now, has an effect on the amount of water available in the future.
- Aqwest is a West Australian Government Trading Enterprise responsible for providing drinking water to the City of Bunbury and surrounding areas, which includes about 17,000 properties.
- Other water conservation tips include:
 - Read water meters regularly to gauge changes to water consumption, which may indicate hidden leaks. Contact a plumber to fix sooner rather than later.
 - Always use a timer, either on the tap, through an automatic reticulation system or by using an oven timer.
 - Make a water conservation garden with wind breaks, less lawn, more low water usage plant species and mulch.
 - Install an efficient watering system.
 - Take shorter showers. Long showers are a major water waster and increase power bills.
 - Install a low-flow shower head. These can be purchased from many hardware stores.
 - Check for leaks and replace washers regularly.
 - Use the washing machine sensibly - wash with a full load.
 - Install dual-flush toilet cisterns.