

# Bendigo Recycled Water

## Expression of Interest

As our climate becomes hotter and drier, the need for a reliable water supply will continue to grow. Not only for agricultural use – but to keep our parks and gardens green and sustain our communities into the future.

We are working to innovate, adapt and modernise our Bendigo Water Reclamation Plant in Epsom so that this ageing asset is equipped to face the challenges of population growth and climate change.

As part of these plans, we're launching a new initiative to offer a reliable and long-term recycled water supply to high-water using businesses and organisations in the area.

Recycled water is already in use across Bendigo, with approximately 2,400 ML received by customers each year. We're now looking to expand the provision of recycled water, to provide a sustainable and cost-effective solution, known as the Bendigo Recycled Water Initiative.

### What is recycled water?

Recycled water is wastewater that's been treated so it can be sustainably reused for other purposes. Throughout our region we treat wastewater at our water reclamation plants and find beneficial ways to reuse the water.

### What is the Bendigo Recycled Water Initiative?

It's an opportunity for high-water users to submit an Expression of Interest to Coliban Water for the purchase and reuse of recycled water. Our plant produces Class A, B and C recycled water, which can be used to irrigate farms, golf courses, sports grounds and agricultural irrigation under the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victorian Guidelines for Water Recycling.

#### An ideal applicant would:

- be able to clearly articulate their current water use and what a new recycled water supply would be used for, with detail on volumes and quality expected.
- be able to enter into a long-term agreement with us.
- be located within 10km of the Bendigo Water Reclamation Plant on Howard Street in Epsom, and/or
- have a high water-using enterprise located in Epsom, Huntly, Bagshot, Barnadown or towards Fosterville. We have an existing recycled water pipeline, which runs from our plant to Fosterville.

Delivery of recycled water to new locations and customers would depend on the infrastructure required to connect. Expressions of Interest will be received and considered on a case-by-case basis.

### Benefits of recycled water



A reliable water source as our climate gets hotter and drier



Duration – this would be part of a long-term agreement with us



Safe for many uses



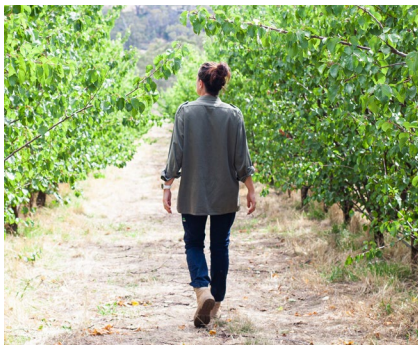
Contributes to the long-term sustainability of our region

#### Key dates for Expressions of Interest

9am Thursday 1 February to  
5pm Thursday 29 February.

#### How to apply

Apply online at  
[connect.coliban.com.au/bendigo-recycled-water-initiative](https://connect.coliban.com.au/bendigo-recycled-water-initiative)



## How recycled water is being used

Recycled water is already used on our city's gardens and sporting fields. Some households receive recycled water, through a separate purple pipe system with its own meters and connection points.

It is also released to Bendigo Creek which boosts environmental flows and contributes to the health and biodiversity of this local waterway.

## The Expression of Interest process

1. Apply online at [connect.coliban.com.au/bendigo-recycled-water-initiative](https://connect.coliban.com.au/bendigo-recycled-water-initiative) between 1 February and 29 February
2. We will be in touch with you after the Expression of Interest period closes
3. We will assess all applications and consider the most suitable applicants
4. We will notify you of the outcome in June.

## Frequently asked questions

### Is there a cost to become a recycled water customer?

Yes, there is a cost to use recycled water, however it's often cheaper and more cost-effective than potable water.

Fees and charges for recycled water are available on our website at [coliban.com.au/about-us/fees-charges](https://coliban.com.au/about-us/fees-charges)

The cost can vary and is dependent on infrastructure required, management of the supply and any benefits associated with end-use.

### What is the length of a recycled water agreement?

Where significant investment is required to supply recycled water to a property, the minimum agreement length is 20 years. Agreement lengths can vary.

### How soon could I receive recycled water?

Assessments and in-principle agreements may take several months. Construction of pipes, storage and infrastructure could take several years to complete. Timing of supply will depend on these factors.

### Will everyone who registers their interest receive recycled water?

No. We will assess each application and consider its merits, using a transparent and accountable evaluation process.

## More information

Please email [communications@coliban.com.au](mailto:communications@coliban.com.au) with any questions.

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