

# Frequently Asked Questions

March 2021



## Recycled water information

### What can businesses use recycled water for?

Many businesses and landowners in South East Water's region already use recycled water including turf growers, nurseries, golf courses, market gardeners, wineries, commercial laundries, parks and sports fields.

The primary focus of this project is to provide large volumes of recycled water to support agricultural activities. However recycled water can also be used for non-agricultural purposes in the Cora Lynn region.

Recycled water isn't suitable for human consumption (drinking) or other personal use.

### What is the quality (Class) of recycled water being offered by this scheme?

The recycled water being offered is described as "Class A" which is the highest grade of recycled water in Victoria. For more information about recycled water and its uses go to <https://southeastwater.com.au/residential/learn-about-water/where-does-my-water-come-from/recycled-water/>

### What is the Electrical Conductivity (salt content) of recycled water?

The EC range for recycled water is typically 600-700 uS/cm.

### What crops can I irrigate with Class A recycled water?

Class A recycled water is the highest grade of recycled water in Victoria. It can be used for a range of applications, including watering food crops that are consumed raw, like carrots, cabbage and leafy greens and the irrigation of pasture. Class A water is routinely tested for a range of water quality parameters and the results are available to interested customers.

Recycled Water schemes are regulated by the Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to ensure that the water is fit for use and does not pose a health risk.

You can find more information about the guidelines for recycled water schemes here <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/water/alternative-water-supplies/class-a-recycled-reclaimed-water>

## **Can Class A recycled water be used for livestock drinking?**

Class A recycled water is treated to the highest standard and can be used as drinking water for all livestock, except pigs. More details about the use of reclaimed water for agricultural use can be found on the EPA Victoria website [www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au)

## **How reliable is the supply of recycled water?**

Supply of recycled water is considered reliable.

In peak demand periods however, supply on any day will be limited by system capacity to deliver no more than the average daily demand for the summer period. Customers will therefore need to make their own arrangements by providing storage, or utilising other sources of supply, for meeting peak crop demand needs beyond these levels.

It is expected that in off-peak periods the system will be shut down annually for a limited period for maintenance – we'll ensure you're notified when this happens.

## **Need to get in touch?**

We're here to help. For more information, please contact either of the following:

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### **For further information about this project:**

Visit: [www.southeastwater.com.au](http://www.southeastwater.com.au)



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