

Plan your water needs with G-MW



With extremely low water resources, it is vital we work together to deliver available supplies when and where they are needed, as efficiently as possible. Goulburn-Murray Water (G-MW) is asking all Goulburn and Murray system customers to plan your end of season irrigation needs and keep your local G-MW team up to date on your plans. G-MW will also continue to work with customers on the smaller river systems to assist with the delivery of essential needs.

2008/09 end of season reminders

- **When is the last allocation?**
The final 2008/09 seasonal allocation for all regulated systems will be announced on Wednesday 1 April 2009. Resource improvements after 1 April 2009 will be used to build supplies for the 2009/10 season. There will be no further 2008/09 groundwater allocations.
- **When will the irrigation season end?**
The irrigation season for channel Irrigation Areas will end 15 May 2009. Customers who access supply directly from rivers and streams (diverters), in the pumped irrigation Areas (Nyah, Tresco and Woorinen) along with groundwater customers can continue to irrigate through to 30 June 2009.
- **When can I place my last water order?**
To ensure orders are delivered before 15 May 2009, customers in Irrigation Areas must place their orders on or before 8 May 2009. Customers in the Pyramid-Boort Area must place their orders on or before 1 May 2009.
- **Will there be water in channels over winter?**
Plan for your winter domestic and stock supplies now, and consider on-farm storage and other water supply options including groundwater, public stand pipe facilities or the carting of water from other sources. G-MW will manage deliveries to meet late season demand, with the aim of maximising supplies left in storage for next season and lowering levels to enable modernisation works to be completed. Customers are also reminded that season start up may be delayed.
- **How much water can I carry over?**
You can carry over a maximum volume equivalent to 50% of your high reliability water shares (HRWS) and 50% of your low reliability water shares (LRWS). You cannot carry over any unused groundwater.
- **How do I check that my allocation is in the correct linked Allocation Bank Account (ABA)?**
Visit Waterline online and check your account balances. If your allocation isn't linked to the correct ABA you will need to transfer it to the correct account before 30 June 2009.
- **Do I need to apply for carryover?**
No, unused 2008/09 allocation in a linked ABA at 30 June 2009 will be automatically carried over to 2009/10 season. Unused allocation in excess of carryover limits will be returned to the communal pool for allocation next season.

Visit www.g-mwater.com.au for G-MW's Customer Carryover Checklist

Waranga Basin

When pumping at Waranga Basin begins, the outflows from the Basin will be well below capacity. This constraint means that customers may not be able to access their water as ordered if there is strong demand for irrigation. To ensure equitable access for customers supplied from the Waranga Basin, rationing of supplies may have to be introduced.

- **When will the Waranga Basin pumps begin operations?**
Pumps are scheduled to start in late March, but this will depend on inflows to the Goulburn system, the level of water in Waranga Basin, and customer demand.
- **Who will this affect?**
Pyramid-Boort and Rochester Irrigation Area customers and Central Goulburn customers in the 7, 8 and 9 Channel Systems may be affected.
- **What can I do to help?**
Customers can help us prevent or reduce the need for rationing by bringing forward their water use to take advantage of available capacity. But more importantly, we are asking irrigators to discuss their irrigation plans with their local G-MW office so we can best manage demand across all users.

2009/10 Season start up

Once the supply system that services your property is operating you may be able to take delivery of your carryover. You don't have to wait for an allocation in order to access any or all of your carryover.

- **When can I access carryover?**
Customers on the main regulated Murray and Goulburn rivers should be able to access their carryover from the start of the season as these rivers will need to run to deliver critical supplies to towns and interstate. G-MW will try to deliver carryover to customers on the smaller river systems and in channel Irrigation Areas and pumped irrigation systems wherever this can be done within the volume of water available for system operations. G-MW may have to manage requests for delivery on the smaller river systems and in the channel Irrigation Areas on a case by case basis and customers will need to discuss their plans closer to the start of the next season when the situation will be clearer.
- **When will the 2009/10 season start?**
Traditionally the season starts 15 August. But as we saw this season, if conditions remain dry, and there are limited inflows the system start up may be delayed.



For assistance:

- **Local Area Operation Plans** are available on www.g-mwater.com.au
- **Allocation Bank Account balances** are available from Waterline via the phone and online
- **Water supply enquiries** can be made directly to your local G-MW office or via Waterline using the option to speak to a Planner

www.g-mwater.com.au