

» recycled water facts

your car, clothes and garden



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» How do I know I'm using Recycled Water?

Ballina Shire Council operates a dual reticulated scheme in parts of Ballina and Lennox Head.

Properties with dual reticulation have two water meters (one purple) and purple pipelines and taps to distinguish recycled water from drinking water.

» Why should I use Recycled Water to wash clothes and water the garden?

Washing machines and garden watering make up a substantial portion of typical water usage. Recycled water is a high quality and more sustainable water source than drinking water; it also offsets the demand on existing drinking water supplies.

Recycled water also costs less than drinking water and using it to irrigate your garden is a great way to help lower your water bill.

» Is it safe to use Recycled Water on my veggie garden?

Yes, irrigating food plants is an approved use of Recycled Water. This includes fruits and vegetables that are consumed raw.

However, just like with drinking water, it should still be standard practice to wash fruits and vegetables prior to consumption.

» Will I notice a difference using Recycled Water?

There should be no discernible difference using either drinking water or recycled water to irrigate your plants, fruits or vegetables.

» Can I wash my car with Recycled Water?

Yes, car washing is an approved use for Recycled Water. As with drinking water, best results are achieved if you avoid washing your car in direct sunlight and dry your car with a microfiber towel or chamois (especially on the glass areas).

» Will using Recycled Water affect my washing performance?

Our recycled water scheme has been designed with washing machine use in mind and is approved for recycled water use.

There should be no discernible difference in your washing machine's performance using either drinking water or recycled water. Slightly harder water is observed in recycled water but this is still softer than many Australian capital cities.

»» What should I expect when washing with Recycled Water?

You shouldn't notice any difference washing clothes with recycled water compared to drinking water.

However, just like with drinking water different detergents and washing additives can vary washing quality and this is the choice of the resident as to which detergents works best for them.

Washing machine maintenance is another area that can have a significant impact on washing performance and supplier manuals are a good source of information in achieving the best washing results.

»» Will Recycled Water affect my washing machine?

No, recycled water will not adversely affect the life expectancy of your washing machine.

»» Can I use the water heater function?

Yes, if your washing machine has a water heater function you can use recycled water.

»» Did you know how Recycled Water can be used?

Recycled water can be used for:

- cold water washing machine taps
- irrigating gardens, food crops and sports fields
- filling ornamental ponds
- toilet flushing
- washing cars, bikes and boats.

Recycled water cannot be used for:

- drinking
- cooking or other kitchen purposes
- baths, showers or other personal washing
- swimming pools or other leisure water use
- rainwater tanks.

The information in this factsheet only applies to the Lennox Head and Ballina recycled water schemes. For information about the Alstonville and Wardell recycled water schemes please refer to Factsheet No 8.



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