

WINTER 2021



Clockwise from top left: The team from Activ – Matthew Wood, Kiama Daglas and Michelle George help spread the mulch, Jacquie Rusha and Peter Duane from the Leschenault Community Nursery prepare the plants for the new garden, Aqwest’s Melinda Maibaum and Dave Gould assist with the planting and Jarrad Back from Verve Landscapes plants a shrub in the new garden.

## AQWEST WATERWISE GARDEN OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

**Aqwest has developed a new waterwise garden which is free and open to the community.**

The garden features native plants and shrubs from the South West, with the type of plant, flowering times, watering, size, soil and habitat explained on QR codes and information sheets.

Local Noongar bush tucker, bush medicine plants and seasonal vegetables in raised garden beds have also been planted.

There are three types of lawns on display, with information on growing and sprinkler run times. A range of mulches have been used throughout the garden to illustrate the correct use.

A sprinkler demonstration station has been set up in one part of the garden and visitors can press each button to see sprinkler flow rates and the suggested run times.

All new plants have been sourced from the Leschenault Community Nursery in Bunbury which is not-for-profit and run by volunteers who look after more than 300 varieties of native species.

Visit the website for more information:  
[www.leschenaultcommunitynursery.com.au](http://www.leschenaultcommunitynursery.com.au)

The garden was designed and installed by Bunbury landscaping company Verve Landscapes, which has been endorsed by Irrigation Australia as a Waterwise Garden Irrigator.

Activ, which maintains all of Aqwest’s water treatment plant and office gardens, has assisted with installing the mulch.

“Water is a finite, precious resource and with reduced levels of rainfall each year it is important that we use it wisely,” said Aqwest Chief Executive Officer Gary Hallsworth.

“By developing a Waterwise Garden which shows an amazing array of native plants and how to grow and look after them, we hope to assist people to develop their own waterwise garden. It also caters for people who want to grow lawn, providing the best sprinkler options to avoid over and under-watering.”

The garden is located at the front of Aqwest’s main administration building at 5 MacKinnon Way, Bunbury and can be viewed at any time.

## SWITCH OFF DURING WINTER

The Winter switch-off started on June 1 and will continue to August 31 as an initiative to save water.

Evaporation rates are lower in winter, so gardens and lawns will receive all the water they need from rainfall.

The switch-off started in 2010 as a permanent water saving measure in Western Australia. In 2018 about five billion litres of water was saved by switching off sprinklers.

The Winter switch-off applies to scheme and bore water users.



## ARE YOU LOOKING TO MAKE YOUR NEXT CAREER MOVE?

Aqwest has a number of exciting new projects coming up as the business grows and Greater Bunbury’s water infrastructure continues to expand.

If you are a highly motivated and skilled professional keen to take the next career challenge and join Aqwest’s dynamic team, please get in touch!

Go to the Aqwest website:  
<https://aqwest.com.au/about-aqwest/careers-and-employment> to check out the Job Vacancy page and register an Expression of Interest.



Aqwest General Manager Business Services Claire Anderson at the Annual South West Careers Expo.

## AQWEST CAREERS ON SHOW AT EXPO

The team from Aqwest was kept busy chatting to students about potential career opportunities at the recent Annual South West Careers Expo at Bunbury Catholic College.

Hundreds of students attended the day collecting information about different careers.

"It was great to showcase the career opportunities on offer at Aqwest and give students some advice and options as they start to make some decisions about their future career paths," said Aqwest General Manager Business Services Claire Anderson.



## AQWEST SPONSORSHIP ROUND OPENING SOON!

Are you a non-for-profit group that is seeking sponsorship?

Aqwest offers eligible community groups the opportunity to access up to \$5,000 in sponsorship to contribute towards providing an educational, social, cultural or environmental activity within the community.

"Aqwest is an integral part of the Bunbury community and is keen to support local organisations where it can by providing funding each year," said Aqwest Chief Executive Officer Gary Hallsworth.

Applications open on August 15 and close on September 30. Sponsorship forms are available at [www.aqwest.com.au](http://www.aqwest.com.au).

"Like" the Aqwest Facebook page and check it for details or watch the local newspapers.

## AQWEST'S FAMILY VIOLENCE POLICY

Aqwest has developed a new Family Violence Policy to assist and protect staff and customers who are experiencing or have experienced family or domestic violence.

The policy is aimed at people who are suffering from financial abuse, such as when someone incurs debt in their name, refuses to contribute to costs, refuses to pay bills or has the service disconnected when they leave the family home.

People who are affected by family violence will be treated in confidence, provided with information about financial support and can enter Aqwest's Financial Assistance program.

The policy can be viewed on the Financial Support page of the Aqwest website:

<https://aqwest.com.au/your-home/accounts-and-billing/financial-support>

## RECONCILIATION WEEK

Aqwest supported Reconciliation Week from May 27 to June 3 by hanging banners in Victoria Street in Bunbury, joining other businesses and organisations to sponsor more than 300 banners hung in prominent locations across WA.

During the week, employees and Board members took part in the 2021 Reconciliation Bridge Walk, starting at the Koombana Bay foreshore and continuing across the Koombana Bridge, along Koombana Drive to Bicentennial Square.



## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Aqwest reads each household's water meter four times a year. Our officers may enter private property to obtain these readings and we ask that you please help our staff by ensuring easy access to meters.

The following residential water tariff applies for 2021/2022:

0 - 150kL	@	\$1.06 per KL
151 - 350kL	@	\$1.97 per KL
351 - 500kL	@	\$2.81 per KL
Over 501kL	@	\$3.49 per KL

### Pensioner/Senior Discount

Rebates of up to 50 per cent are available to pensioners, seniors and CSHC holders.

Please contact Aqwest to enquire about eligibility. Call (08) 9780 9500 for details.

For emergencies and faults call (08) 9780 9500 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



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## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

- > MULCH TO CONSERVE WATER
- > USE A SOIL WETTING AGENT TO IMPROVE WATER ABSORPTION
- > CHECK RETICULATION FOR LEAKS
- > FIX DRIPPING TAPS

Check out the Aqwest website for more tips:  
[www.aqwest.com.au](http://www.aqwest.com.au)

## CONTACT AQWEST

5 MacKinnon Way, East Bunbury WA 6230  
P: (08) 9780 9500 E: [aqwest@aqwest.com.au](mailto:aqwest@aqwest.com.au)  
[www.aqwest.com.au](http://www.aqwest.com.au)

If you need an interpreter, please call TIS National on 131 450  
TTY users phone 133 677 then ask for (08) 9780 9500  
Speak and Listen users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for (08) 9780 9500