

PLANNING YOUR WATER FUTURE



WATER FOR A GROWING BRISBANE

We're planning for your water future. Because we can't always count on the rain.

The plan might look different depending on where you live in South East Queensland.

We might have differences but we are one region, and Seqwater is planning for a reliable and sustainable water supply for all South East Queenslanders.



BRISBANE WATER

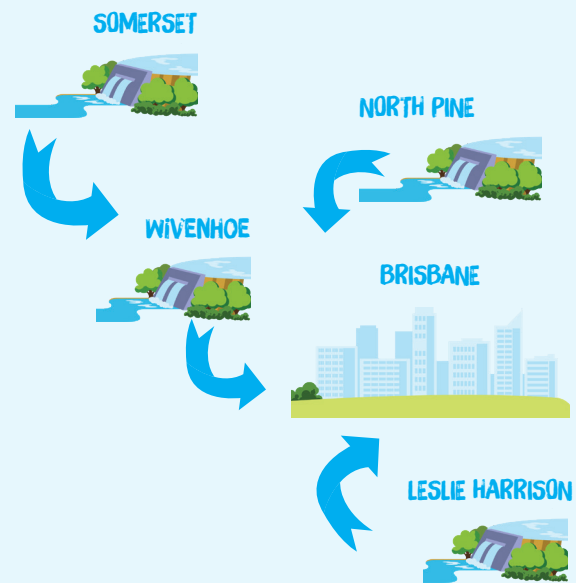
Most of the water supplied to Brisbane is from Somerset and Wivenhoe dams.

This water is treated at the Mount Crosby water treatment plants.

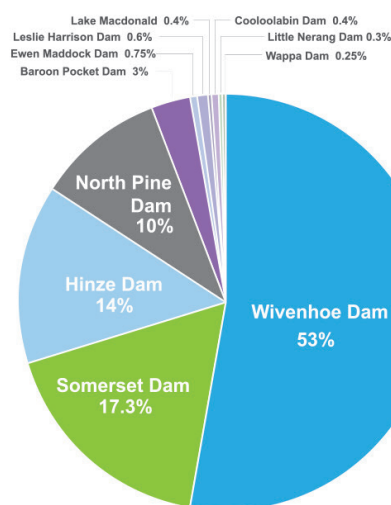
Parts of Brisbane and Moreton Bay can receive water from North Pine and Leslie Harrison dams, and from Minjerribah (Stradbroke Island).

Thanks to the SEQ Water Grid, we can even move water from the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast to supply to Brisbane and vice versa.

While we can move water around the region, drinking water is usually sourced and treated locally to minimise costs and use our dams, pipelines and pumps effectively so we get the best out of them.



SEQ WATER GRID DAM STORAGE PROPORTIONS



Wivenhoe, Somerset, Hinze and North Pine dams make up more than 90% of SEQ Water Grid storage.

The other seven dams are mostly located on the Sunshine Coast and are considerably smaller, but still important, sources of water.

Other grid sources are the Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) borefields, the Gold Coast Desalination Plant and the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme.

IS LAKE KURWONGBAH (SIDELING CREEK) A DRINKING WATER DAM?



The Petrie Water Treatment Plant used to treat water from Lake Kurwongbah. Since the plant was decommissioned, and residents are supplied from North Pine Dam, Lake Kurwongbah no longer regularly supplies drinking water.

However there are plans in place to build a pipeline from the Lake Kurwongbah to North Pine Water Treatment Plant. In a severe drought, we will bring this work forward.



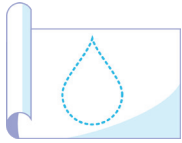
BY 2028, THE POPULATION OF THE BRISBANE IS PREDICTED TO GROW BY MORE THAN 50,000 PEOPLE.

AVERAGE DAILY RESIDENTIAL WATER USE IN CENTRAL SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND IS 166 LITRES PER PERSON.*



*Average daily usage between 6 January 2017 - 5 January 2018

WATER IN THE FUTURE



OUR PLAN

The Water Security Program is Seqwater's plan to provide South East Queensland with drinking water over the next 30 years. This includes planning for droughts.



POPULATION AND WATER USAGE IS GROWING

Currently South East Queensland uses around 300,000 million litres a year. By 2046, with our increasing population, the forecast medium demand is around 525,000 million litres a year. With all South East Queensland water grid assets available and operating (including the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme), our region's bulk water system can supply about 440,000 million litres a year.



NEW WATER SOURCES NEEDED

The next new source is expected to be needed on the Sunshine Coast before 2040. This new source could also assist Brisbane in a severe drought. The Gold Coast Desalination Plant and the purified recycled water treatment plants of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme play a critical role in the way we plan to manage South East Queensland's water supply during drought. A very severe drought could bring forward new water sources in the Brisbane region.

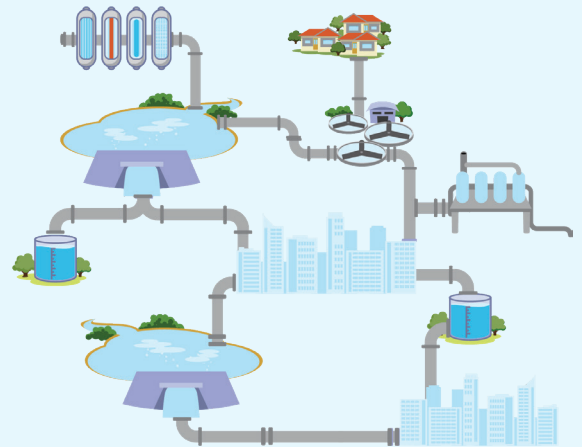
WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW



UPGRADING SOMERSET

Somerset Dam was completed in 1959 and Wivenhoe Dam in 1985. Both dams were designed to the engineering standards of their time. We now know more about the risks of extreme floods to the Somerset and Wivenhoe Dam walls.

Both dams will be upgraded so they can withstand much larger floods. We are in the planning stages for the Somerset Dam Safety Upgrade, with construction expected to commence in 2021.



INVESTING IN CATCHMENT PROTECTION

Most of our water comes from rainfall run-off flowing into creeks, rivers and our dams. The condition of the catchment impacts how much water can be stored, the quality of the water available and the cost of water treatment.

That's why we're investing millions of dollars in catchment protection programs to improve the quality of water coming into our dams and helping to shape liveable, healthy catchments and communities for generations to come.

IMPROVING THE WATER GRID

We're making improvements to the Water Grid so we can move water around the region more effectively.

Without the water grid, the system could only supply about 355,000 million litres of water a year. By boosting the yield of the system, the grid helps delay the need for additional water supply infrastructure.

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WATER WISE TIPS

Water is a precious resource and South East Queenslanders are encouraged to be water efficient all the time.

Water before 8am and after 4pm

If you water in the heat of the day, you can lose up to 50% of the water to evaporation.

Check for leaks

You can lose thousands of litres of water a day without even knowing it due to underground leaks. Use your water meter to check for leaks at home and in your irrigation system.

Use a good mulch

A good mulch will help your plants retain water through the scorching summer days and reduce weeds that compete for water.

Use your pool cover

Pool covers reduce evaporation by about 90%.

Check how much water you use

Do you really know how much water you use? Use a water audit tool (there is one on our website) to calculate where you're using water and opportunities to make savings.

Take shorter showers

Shave a couple of minutes off your regular shower time to save water.

Turn off the tap

Half fill the sink instead of leaving the tap running to wash fruit and vegetables, and turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.



DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN

We have introduced a drought readiness phase to better prepare the region for the prospect of drought. Drought response actions are linked to the combined volumes of our region's water storages.



Drought readiness messaging begins when storage levels reach 70%. Voluntary water conservation will commence at 60% as will full production at the desalination plant. We'll also begin restarting our purified recycled water treatment plants. Mandatory water restrictions will commence at 50%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information is available at our Realities of Rain hub at

<https://yourseqwater.com.au/realities-of-rain>

You can also subscribe to our email newsletter to stay up to date with news and events.

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