Barwon Water

Anglesea Community Update - Spring 2026

Hello and welcome to our spring edition of the Anglesea Community Update, designed especially for you and the Anglesea community.

As you will know, Barwon Water actively manages a diverse mix of water sources to keep the region's water supplies secure, adjusting how much water is drawn from each source throughout the year.

The Melbourne to Geelong Pipeline and the Anglesea Borefield are a key part of our balanced approach to providing greater water security to the Geelong region.

After the region experienced its third very dry year in a row, and water storages dropped to below 40 per cent, in July 2025 the Anglesea borefield was activated alongside the Melbourne to Geelong Pipeline to ensure safe, secure, reliable water supplies across our region. Prior to this, the last time the borefield was operational was in 2022.

Without the Melbourne to Geelong Pipeline and contributions from the Anglesea borefield, storage levels would have fallen below 10 per cent last summer and Greater Geelong would have faced Stage 4 water restrictions.

Thanks to the recent rainfall and recovery in storage levels, both the Melbourne to Geelong Pipeline and Anglesea Borefield have again been moved to standby mode. Provided water storages remain secure, the Anglesea borefield will remain in standby mode.

For more information on water storages and alternative water sources, please go to: **Geelong region - Barwon Water**

For information on Anglesea Borefield, head on over to the project's Your Say page at: **Anglesea borefield | Your Say Barwon Water**

Making every drop count

Victoria's communities are growing fast and in the coming decades, millions more will rely on our water. Desalination, recycled water, and stormwater help to keep our water supply flowing, but what we do at home matters just as much.

Here's some tips to make small changes that lead to big water saving wins this spring

- **Showers** can represent over a third of a household's indoor water use. Having a shorter shower is a simple change you can make today that saves you hundreds on your water and energy bills. Time your shower to a tune, and you'll be in and out in four minutes. Go to Spotify to **stream or download now!**
- **Mulch** your garden beds to lock in moisture and keep roots cool on hot days.
- **Cover** your pool and you'll cut evaporation and save serious water.

There are also a range of rebates and WaterSmart programs to help you to save money and water, no matter the season! Head on over to our **Saving Water** page to see how we can help.

Permanent water saving rules (PWSR)

Water is a precious resource and shouldn't be wasted. Victoria's permanent water saving rules (PWSR) are a set of simple, common-sense rules to reduce demand and make sure we all use water wisely.

The permanent water saving rules are in place every day of the year and are uniform across Victoria. The rules apply to drinking water only. They don't apply to greywater, tank water (rainwater), bore water or recycled water.

The rules are:

- Outdoor hoses must be leak free and have a trigger nozzle.
- Only water your garden after 6pm or before 10am.
- Don't hose down hard surfaces, use a broom instead.
- Fountains and water features need to recirculate water

Visit our website for more information on permanent water saving rules at: **https://www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/water-and-waste/permanent-water-saving-rules.**