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Attn: News Editors, Producers

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Media Release

Water restrictions reduced and extended on Flinders Island

With winter approaching, TasWater has reduced water restrictions for Whitemark residents from stage 2 to stage 1 through until the end of October 2021.

TasWater Capital Delivery Office (CDO) Project Manager Quentin Ward thanked the community for conserving water during the Henderson Dam upgrade.

“We are essentially building a whole new dam for Whitemark residents,” he said.

“Once complete, the dam will have double its original capacity, increasing water supply and surety for our customers on the island.”

The aim of stage 1 water restrictions is to reduce non-essential water usage by 20 per cent.

This is achieved through sensible water use both inside and out.

Water restrictions will continue until water in the Henderson Dam returns to a sustainable level as a result of winter rainfall. The works are on track to be completed by end October 2021.

“Recent rainfall patterns have allowed us to reduce water restrictions from stage 2 to stage 1,” Mr Ward said.

“We thank the community for their patience and efforts in minimising water usage during the restrictions period.”

“This allows us to maintain a lower number of water truck movements on the roads, contributing to improved safety for the community and for our drivers.”

“We will keep working with residents and Flinders Council and we look forward to this project delivering improved water surety to our customers on the island, now and into the future.”

More information on water restrictions can be found on TasWater’s website at taswater.com.au/water-restrictions

Ends...

What do stage 1 water restrictions mean?

Stage 1 restrictions are intended to enforce sensible water use and prevent inefficient water practices by reducing non-essential use of water by about 20 per cent.

Residential, public and commercial gardens and lawns

Garden and lawn watering is allowed on any day during the following times:

Manual watering systems can only be used between the hours of 6am and 8am, and between the hours of 8pm and 10pm.

- Automatic watering systems can only be used between the hours of midnight and 4am.
- Handheld hoses with a trigger nozzle, buckets or watering cans may be used at any time.

Sporting grounds

Watering of sports grounds is allowed on any day during the following times:

- Manual watering systems can only be used between the hours of 6am and 8am and between the hours of 8pm and 10pm.
- Automatic watering systems can only be used between the hours of midnight and 4am.
- Handheld hoses with a trigger nozzle, buckets or watering cans may be used at any time.

Paving, concrete and other hard surfaces

- Spot cleaning for safety, health, animal welfare or emergency reasons with a hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or with high pressure cleaning equipment is permitted.
- For construction, using water for dust or pollutant suppression, or earth compaction by means of a hose fitted with a flow cut-off device or a vehicle fitted with sprinklers is permitted.
- Hosing for general cleaning of hard surfaces such as paths, driveways and paved areas is not permitted at any time.

Washing vehicles

- A bucket, high pressure cleaning device or commercial car wash can be used at any time for vehicle washing.
- A handheld hose fitted with a trigger nozzle can only be used for pre-rinsing and rinsing at home.

Residential or commercial pools and spas

- Topping up of pools and spas only using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket, watering can or auto-device.
- Emptying and refilling existing pools and spas, and filling new pools and spas:
 - o Up to 2,000 litres: may only be refilled, or filled for the first time, using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, a bucket or automatic water top-up device.
 - o More than 2,000 litres: may only be refilled, or filled for the first time when the property owner has an approved *Exemption – swimming pool or spa filling* from TasWater.