

# Working with recycled water

## A guide for Tradies



### Tradies play an important role

To reduce demand on drinking water supplies, Googong is supplied with high quality recycled water. The recycled water is generally for use outside the house and also for toilet flushing.

To protect public health, it is critically important that the recycled water network isn't cross-connected to the drinking water network. It is also important that visitors to the town don't mistakenly drink from recycled water taps.

**As a Tradie, you play an important part in ensuring this doesn't happen.**

#### What you CAN use recycled water for:

- ✓ Concrete and grout mixing
- ✓ Filling ponds that won't be used for swimming
- ✓ Washing down work areas/surfaces
- ✓ Sprinkler systems and external water features not designed for use by people
- ✓ Establishing and maintaining gardens and plants (including fruit and vegetables)

#### What you CAN'T use recycled water for:

- ✗ Drinking
- ✗ Cooking and other kitchen uses
- ✗ Filling pools and spas
- ✗ Heating or cooling systems

THESE FACTS

## How will I know if it's recycled water?

Taps that supply recycled water will be identified with a small "Not for drinking" sign at the tap. They will also have a different handle than a normal tap and may be purple in colour.

Pipes that supply recycled water will be purple in colour.

If you aren't sure, turn off the recycled water at the meter box and check if you still have flow at the tap/pipe you are using.

## I'm a plumber – anything special I need to know?

Plumbers will play a critical role in protecting residents of Googong.

Make sure you are only using materials and processes that are specified in the current Australian Standards.



## What if I come into contact with recycled water?

Our recycled water is treated to a high standard and there is a low risk of any negative health effects from approved uses.

If you get recycled water on you, rinse with potable water (drinking water) and use standard hygiene practices such as washing your hands with soap before eating. If you accidentally use recycled water for an unapproved use, such as drinking, contact QPRC.

## How should we manage risks associated with working with recycled water?

Managing the risks associated with working with recycled water is simple.

- Make sure everybody on site knows there is recycled water.
- Check that "not for drinking" signs are in place – if they aren't, make sure everybody knows which taps supply recycled water. You should also make a note of the missing signs and pass this information on to the owner of the property so that they can fix the issue. The owner can contact QPRC if they are unsure how to fix the problem.
- Turn off the recycled water at the meter box if you aren't using it.