

# Water Pressure Management Program

Improving the reliability of  
our water supply



## What is water pressure?

Water pressure is a measure of the force needed to move the water from our mains into your pipes. For example, if you have a swimming pool that is 10 metres (m) deep, 10m 'head' is the pressure at the bottom of the pool.

Most Sydney properties receive an average water pressure of between 15m and 65m. Some customers receive significantly higher pressure, above 100m. The current overall average pressure across Sydney Water's area of operations is 56m.

Sydney Water will continue to meet our Operating Licence condition – ensuring not less than a minimum pressure of 15m at the water main connection point under normal conditions.

## What is water pressure management?

Water pressure management involves adjusting water pressure levels in the water supply system to save water and improve service levels to our customers.

## Why is Sydney Water introducing a Water Pressure Management Program?

High water pressure contributes to burst water mains, leaks and water waste. Through this program we can reduce leaks, improve the reliability of the water supply system and save water.

Water pressure management is the use of pressure regulating valves and system monitoring points to achieve more consistent and lower water pressure levels across the water supply network.

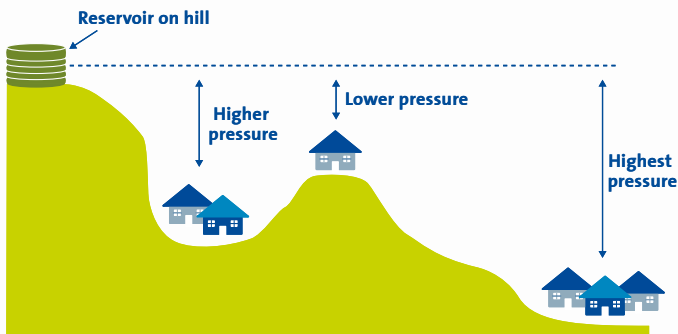
## How much water will be saved?

The NSW Government's Metropolitan Water Plan estimates that pressure management and leakage reduction programs will save 33 billion litres of water a year by 2015.

## Why do some areas have higher pressure than others?

Water is distributed to customers through a network of water supply zones. Water reservoirs are located at high points in each water supply zone. Water is distributed from the reservoir across the zone using a gravity system. Water pressure varies at different locations in the zone depending on how far you are from the reservoir and your property's elevation in relation to the reservoir.

### Water pressure management diagram



#### For example:

Properties in low areas receive higher water pressure.  
Properties in high areas receive lower water pressure.

## How will I be affected?

Most residents and businesses in the selected areas will not be significantly affected. Reducing the water pressure does not mean you'll have less water. You may need to turn on the tap more, and it could take a little longer to fill a bath or washing machine.

Some instantaneous hot water systems, corroded galvanised pipes or existing pressure reducing valves may not work as effectively when the pressure is reduced and your systems may need to be upgraded.

If you have a fire suppression system or business that depends on water pressure, you may need to make some changes to these when the pressure is reduced.

Sydney Water will write to you in advance if your property will be included in the Water Pressure Management Program. This letter will provide more information about how you can determine if the proposed changes will affect your water system.

## What should I do if I experience a water pressure problem?

If you experience any pressure related issues please check that:

- the tap on your water meter that controls flow to your property is fully turned on
- any taps that control flow to your hot water system and other devices are fully turned on.

If you continue to experience water pressure problems, please phone 1800 010 501.

## **Where will the Water Pressure Management Program be implemented?**

The program is targeting areas in Sydney, Blue Mountains and Illawarra regions where water pressure levels are higher than average.

## **Our commitment**

We congratulate residents and businesses in Sydney for conserving water. The amount of water used per person has reduced from 506 litres a day in 1991 to 403 litres a day in 2006.

The Water Pressure Management Program is part of the NSW Government's commitment to water conservation and helping to secure our water supply for life.

For further information about the Water Pressure Management Program in your area, please phone 1800 010 501 or visit [www.sydneywater.com.au](http://www.sydneywater.com.au)

Sydney Water is conducting work in your area.  
For more information, please phone 13 20 92.

تقوم مصلحة مياه سيدني بتنفيذ أشغال في منطقتك. للمزيد من  
المعلومات يُرجى الاتصال على الرقم 13 20 92.

Sydney Water 正在您的區內進行工程，索取有關詳情，請致電13 20 92。

Uprava vodovoda Sydney obavlja radove u Vašem dijelu grada. Za više informacija, molimo nazovite 13 20 92.

Η Υπηρεσία Ύδρευσης Σύδνεϋ, Sydney Water, διεξάγει έργα στην περιοχή σας. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες, παρακαλείστε να τηλεφωνήσετε στο 13 20 92.

Il Sydney Water sta eseguendo dei lavori nella vostra zona. Per maggiori informazioni telefonare al numero 13 20 92.

Sydney Water изведува работа во вашата област. За повеќе информации, ве молиме телефонирајте на 13 20 92.

Sydney Water обавља радове у вашем делу града. За више информација, молимо вас да назовете 13 20 92.

Sydney Water está realizando obras en su zona. Para obtener mayor información, llame al 13 20 92.

Sydney Water đang thi công trong vùng quý vị đang cư ngụ. Muốn biết thêm chi tiết, xin vui lòng điện thoại số 13 20 92.



For more information  
visit [www.sydneywater.com.au](http://www.sydneywater.com.au)