

Happy Valley reservoir and water treatment plant



Storing water

The Happy Valley reservoir supplies water to around 500,000 people across the metropolitan area including Adelaide's central business district. It has a total capacity of 11,600 million litres.

Originally built in the 1890s, the reservoir has been upgraded to meet international construction standards as well as best practice dam management requirements.

Water in the Mount Bold catchment area, together with water from the River Murray, flows to the reservoir before being treated at the Happy Valley water treatment plant ahead of supply to our customers.

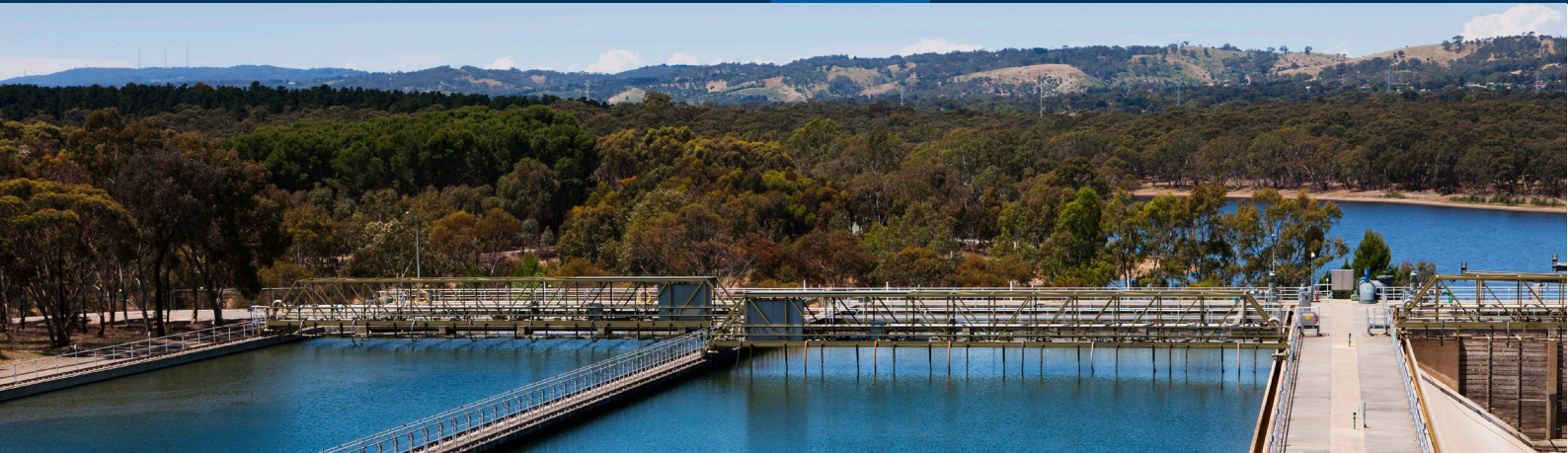
Treating water

Water treated at Happy Valley meets the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines*. These national guidelines ensure drinking water is safe and clean.

At Happy Valley we use a traditional treatment process that involves:

- clumping impurities together to settle at the bottom of a sedimentation tank and removing them from the water
- removing any remaining impurities by moving water through a bank of filters
- using chlorine to eradicate microorganisms and disinfect the water





Safe, clean drinking water

Using chlorine to eradicate microorganisms is a common treatment method widely used across Australia and the world to ensure water is safe to drink. The amount of chlorine used to treat water is regulated. The storage of chlorine at the Happy Valley water treatment plant is also regulated.

In 2014, we built a new chlorine storage facility to ensure continued compliance with all regulated requirements. For more than 50 years we have safely stored chlorine at Happy Valley and while there have not been any public safety incidents, we are required to plan for all scenarios.

While a major incident is unlikely, it is important that our neighbours understand what we will do if such an event occurs. It's also important that you know what you can do to stay safe too.

In the event of an incident that poses an immediate danger to people living or working near the site, emergency services will respond.

- A notice will then be issued through Emergency Alert, the national telephone warning system, to landlines and mobile phones located within the area
- As the incident unfolds, up-to-date information will be provided to the community via local radio, social media and Alert SA
- Chlorine has a strong bleach-like odour and its gas, in large quantities, can be harmful

What to do if there is an incident

In the event of a major incident, please:

1. Go indoors and stay there.
2. Close all external doors and windows.
3. Switch off air-conditioners, heaters and exhaust fans.
4. Listen to your emergency service broadcaster, ABC Adelaide, for details and any further instruction.
5. Avoid using your telephone / mobile phone so that emergency services can contact you if necessary.

Emergency services will let you know when the incident is over and it's safe to open your doors and windows and resume normal activities.

Join a tour

You're welcome to join one of our regular community tours of the Happy Valley water treatment plant.

To register your interest email us at communityrelations@sawater.com.au or visit us online at sawater.com.au/community-and-environment.

More information

Call us on 1300 SA WATER / 1300 729 283 for more information about the Happy Valley water treatment plant or what to do in the event of an incident.