

Integrated Water Management Plan



Sustainable Salisbury

“These initiatives will continue to make certain that the most valuable resource of all – water – is treated as liquid gold.”

Tony Zappia
Mayor, City of Salisbury

The City of Salisbury is looking to implement Australia’s first totally integrated water management plan to efficiently harness and manage systems for rainwater, stormwater, groundwater, recycled wastewater and potable water.

It is an integral part of the Waterproofing Northern Adelaide Plan as the City of Salisbury, the neighbouring Councils of Playford and Tea Tree Gully, and the Catchment Board work to achieve self-sustainability in terms of their water requirements. It is a visionary, whole-of-catchment plan that delivers not only greater water efficiencies, but also environmental, social and commercial benefits through:

- flood protection while ensuring sustainable environmental flows and enhanced biodiversity along creeks and rivers;
- harnessing and natural treatment of stormwater, along with aquifer storage and recovery, to provide fit-for-purpose water to industry, community and residential developments;



- opportunities for education and community awareness about the environmental benefits of converting stormwater into a valuable resource;
- a reduced reliance on potable water sourced from the River Murray;
- a reduction of ocean discharge of stormwater pollutants that can harm the marine environment; and
- development of a system that will generate sufficient revenue to maintain urban stormwater and catchment management systems in addition to meeting its own operational expenses.

Water flow from the Mount Lofty foothills is harnessed and regulated in a series of flood control dams constructed in the upper reaches of the catchment. The dams, constructed to handle a one-in-100 year flood, effectively throttle down the flow of water into a series of pipes and open channels planted with reedbeds to filter and cleanse the water of nutrients and heavy metals.

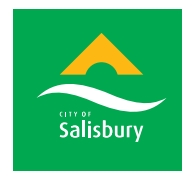
These pipes and channels are the arteries for the flow of stormwater into a network of 20 harvesting sites, or wetlands, strategically developed by the City of Salisbury.

Treated stormwater is either stored underground or pumped directly to community, industrial and commercial users with high water dependency.

The City of Salisbury's integrated water management plan is bold and far-reaching.

It will make the City of Salisbury almost self-sufficient in its water needs and reduce reliance on the River Murray in a non-drought year by 75 per cent.

It is an effective working model and blueprint for other councils and communities to become self-sustaining in their water needs.



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