

## Euroa/Violet Town storage works continue, but conservation efforts required in the interim

8 March 2019

Goulburn Valley Water is urging Euroa and Violet Town residents to take action to conserve water following a hot start to autumn, low water storage levels, and significant construction work continuing on the Abbinga Reservoir site which supplies the system.

While dry and warm climatic conditions have prompted higher water usage over the summer period, there are continuing low inflows into the system, leading to storage levels dropping significantly at the Abbinga site.

Twelve months ago a two stage major upgrade project began at the Abbinga site to build a second storage to ensure the water supply requirements of the townships remain sustainable over the next 50 years, and in July this project will be moving into the next phase, reconstruction of the original storage.

GVW Project Supervisor, Neil Healey, said the two stages were scheduled to take around 12 months each.

“Stage 1, which took place over last year, involved construction of a new 300ML raw water storage at the Abbinga Reservoir site,” he said. “This new storage sits right alongside the existing storage, but has a smaller footprint and is significantly deeper than the existing reservoir, which was originally a large but very shallow farm dam.”

Mr Healey said now that the new storage has been completed, the original storage has been drained to dry it out, as earthworks will begin there in July.

“Stage 2 is scheduled for mid-year, which will upgrade the capacity of the existing Abbinga Reservoir from 560ML to 700ML, with works expected to take up to another 12 months.”

To ease pressure on the system throughout this works period, GVW is urging customers to reduce their water consumption from now onwards.

GVW General Manager Service Delivery, Daniel Flanagan, said “As we are currently supplying Euroa from the smaller 300ML storage we are asking customers to take action now to reduce their water usage, and recommend garden watering as an area customers can make a difference.”

Due to the works required on the existing Abbinga Reservoir, overall water storage volumes will remain lower than usual for the next 12–18 months.

“Ideally GVW would like to avoid the introduction of formal water restrictions during this time, however due to the reduced storage size customers will be asked to work with GVW to help reduce demand whilst the new storages are being constructed.” Mr Flanagan said.

For more information please contact us by email [mail@gvwater.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@gvwater.vic.gov.au) or call us on 58324800.

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*The original Abbinga Reservoir filled with water and the new one during construction.*

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