



2025-2026



Safe Drinking Water Act

Annual Report

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1 Overview

This report, to the Secretary to the Department of Health (DH), has been prepared to satisfy the annual reporting requirement under Section 26 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2003* (the Act), for Coliban Water, as a Water Supplier, to produce an annual water quality report.

We are a major urban water corporation in Victoria, led by our vision of *healthy water, healthy people (dhehk gatjin dhehk balak)*, we manage, maintain and operate 32 reservoirs and water storage basins across north central Victoria, and provide water and wastewater services to rural and urban customers across an area of 16,500 square kilometres.

Our service region includes 49 towns, extending from Cohuna and Echuca in the north, to Kyneton and Trentham in the south. The western boundary incorporates Boort, Wedderburn, Bealiba and Dunolly, and the eastern boundary includes Heathcote and Tooborac.

Raw water is sourced from eight individual water supply systems: the Coliban, Campaspe, Wimmera, Loddon, Goulburn and Murray River systems, and two groundwater sources. Coliban Water has 19 water treatment plants which provide drinking water to 42 separate water sampling areas. We also have seven regulated water supply systems. Throughout this document we'll refer to water treatment plants as 'our plant' or 'treatment plants'.



Figure 1: Coliban Water Service Region

We are committed to the provision of safe drinking water as outlined in our Drinking Water Quality Policy Statement, provided below. This is reviewed every three years.

Drinking Water Quality Policy Statement

Below is a copy of the wording from the Drinking Water Quality Policy Statement, signed off by the Coliban Water Board Chair and Managing Director.

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has endured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

Coliban Water is responsible for providing safe, aesthetically pleasing drinking water which consistently meets the Safe Drinking Water Act 2003 and Safe Drinking Water Regulations (SDWR). We will work collaboratively with our staff and operational partners to:

- 1. Manage water quality from catchment to tap through a multiple barrier approach using our Drinking Water Quality Risk Management Plan and associated documents.*
- 2. Consult and integrate the needs and expectations of our customers into our planning processes, now and into the future.*
- 3. Undertake regular monitoring and reporting of the quality of drinking water to promote trust and confidence in our water supply and its management.*
- 4. Ensure we have and maintain treatment and distribution assets capable of delivering safe drinking water now and into the future having regard for climate change related risks.*
- 5. Undertake appropriate contingency planning and have adequate incident response protocols.*
- 6. Be involved in research and development activities to understand emerging water quality issues and performance.*
- 7. Continually improve our water systems management practices in line with the principles set out in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011. the*
- 8. Ensure our staff and operational partners have the appropriate training to make decisions that ensure our systems are operated to produce and supply safe drinking water to our customers.*

We will engage all staff and/or partners involved in the supply of drinking water to implement the policy and continually improve the drinking water quality management system.



Bob Cameron
Board Chairperson



Damian Wells
Managing Director

Effective date: 20 December 2024

1.1 Characterisation of the system

We manage and operate various water supply systems. Bendigo, Castlemaine and Kyneton are supplied with water harvested from our three main reservoirs on the Coliban River (Upper Coliban, Lauriston and Malmsbury).

Water is transported to Bendigo and Castlemaine by open channel and stored in the Sandhurst and McCay reservoirs, both of which are off-stream storages managed by Coliban Water. Kyneton is supplied via a pipeline directly from Lauriston Reservoir. Of our 19 water treatment plants, three are owned and operated by Bendigo Water Services Pty Ltd (Veolia Water), and treated water is supplied to us under a 25-year contract. This commenced in 2002, and these three plants service Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton and satellite towns.

Supply to Bendigo is supplemented by water from both Lake Eppalock (a major reservoir on the Campaspe River, managed by Goulburn-Murray Water) and the Waranga Western Channel (Goulburn System, also managed by Goulburn-Murray Water).

Our remaining 16 treatment plants are owned by Coliban Water. These are operated by Service Stream under an operations and maintenance service contract, which started on 1 July 2013.

Two of these plants rely on groundwater supplies, and the others receive raw water by diversions from either waterway, irrigation channels or pipelines. These are directly managed by us or managed by Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water (GWMW) or Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW), as bulk water suppliers to Coliban Water.

For the purposes of the Act, both GWMW and GMW are water storage managers for Coliban Water. These water storage managers work closely with us, communicating raw water data regularly, with direct engagement when issues are identified. This enables our plant operators to better prepare for any raw water changes.

Other than the two groundwater supplies, all other raw water supplied to our treatment plants is sourced from open catchments. All identified catchment risks are included in a risk register that forms part of our Drinking Water Quality Risk Management Plan (DWQRMP) and managed as required.

The SDWR requires water suppliers to detail the methodology used to quantify microbial hazards in source waters. Since the introduction of this regulatory requirement, we have applied the Microbial Health-Based Targets manual, developed by Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA). This work required all catchments supplying water for treatment to be assessed, together with analysis of raw water data, to identify the appropriate source water category. Each category has an associated level of potential pathogen risk that our plants need to manage. Processes at each plant are then aligned with the source water category, to identify the level of pathogen risk post treatment.

In September 2022, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) released an updated version of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG), which included a revision of Chapter 5, specific to assessing microbial risk. These revisions have been applied during the latest microbial review for each of our plants.

Information collected from our catchments, source water and plants enable us to identify which plants and treatment processes may require enhancement to manage the potential pathogen risks in the source water. Where a risk has been identified, options to reduce the risk are assessed, which can result in a treatment plant upgrade, or asset modification. All our plants have critical control points throughout the process, which will alert operators if the plant is operating outside the required range. It will then stop the process when pre-defined critical limits are reached.

We supply seven townships with water that is classified as regulated water, as detailed in Section 6 of the Act (see part 7 of this report for more details). Regulated water is water that is not intended for drinking but could be reasonably mistaken as drinking water.

1.2 Source water protection

We work in partnership with the North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA), local government, GMW, GWMW and landcare groups to address issues affecting water quality in our catchments from where drinking water is sourced. This includes the Coliban, Campaspe, Loddon, Wimmera and Murray River catchments.

Our catchments and operational areas are closely managed to ensure we monitor our land for fire and tree hazards, manage our pest plant obligations, whilst also protecting water quality in our storages. We also work to enhance river health and support biodiversity across our lands and catchment.

As part of our fire hazard management, we take a proactive approach to reducing fuel loads. This minimises risk to adjacent landowners, high value assets, and public areas. We also work collaboratively with other agencies through regional forums to prepare for upcoming fire seasons.

We engage with Traditional Owner enterprises such as DJAARA (the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation) to deliver land and natural resource management outcomes on Country. This includes sensitively managing access to areas around the storages and across sites that contain cultural heritage.

Since the release in February 2015 of our Drinking Water Storages and Land Management Plan, numerous Catchment Works Agreements have been entered into with adjoining landowners. This has been around Malmsbury and Upper Coliban reservoirs to reduce stock access to raw water supplies. Negotiations with landowners regarding fencing at Lauriston Reservoir are ongoing.

We are responsible for providing statutory and strategic land use planning engagement with municipalities where sewerage is not connected, and we are a determining referral authority under section 55 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. As part of our role in special water supply catchments, declared under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*, we provide responses to planning permit applications referred to us by local government under clause 66.02-5 – ‘Special Water Supply Catchment’ of the Victorian Planning Provisions and relevant municipal planning schemes.

Our responses provide support to local government by supplying conditions that council must include on a planning permit application for the use and development of privately-owned land in open water supply catchments, to ensure minimal impact on the quality and quantity of water available to the environment, and for townships that we supply. On occasion, we have objected to the issuing of a planning permit, where we identify potential for adverse impacts.

In September 2017, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), released a Statewide Framework for Catchment Partnership Agreements. The purpose of this is to strengthen coordination, collaboration and accountability, while reducing duplication. It provides clarity on roles and responsibilities between key catchment management partners. We are a partner organisation, under the agreement, along with North Central CMA.

This allowed us to participate in the regional Catchment Partnership Forum and provided us representation on the Steering Committee managed by North Central CMA for the renewal of both the North Central Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) and the North Central Regional Waterway Strategy (RWS).

In 2024, we put in place a three-year action plan to support the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) we have with NCCMA. Signed by the executive teams of both organisations, the action plan links the RCS to our strategy, *dhehk gatjin dhehk balak*. These actions began in 2024/25 financial year. The overarching MoU enables the protection and enhancement of our catchment areas and the environment, with a focus on risks to water security from climate and land-use changes. A key action outlined in the action plan is the continued development and implementation of the Upper Coliban Catchment Integrated Catchment Management Plan (ICMP).

The ICMP was developed in response to various threats facing the Upper Coliban catchment in 2015/16. Through active participation by our partners, North Central CMA and DJAARA and a range of stakeholders, including landholders, landcare groups, local and Victorian government agencies, and GMW, the ICMP is a comprehensive analysis of the benefits and costs of protecting and enhancing the catchment. The ICMP is a key step in the delivery of safe drinking water supply and a key principle of ‘Catchment to Tap’ multi-barrier approach for the production of safe drinking water.

The ICMP enables the provision of a safe and secure water supply for communities in central and northern Victoria, along with enhanced river, biodiversity and catchment health outcomes. With a 20-year horizon, the ICMP has been developed around three specific goals with a focus on future development pressures, waterway protection and habitat connectivity.

Delivery and implementation of the ICMP is through a Coliban Water, North Central CMA and DJARRA partnership program, now entering its seventh year of operation, called ‘A Healthy Coliban Catchment’ (AHCC). We’re now in the fourth year of our pricing period (2023 to 2028), which includes funding for this program. It involves a range of on-

ground actions (stock exclusion from waterways, riparian regeneration and willow removal). Strategic land use planning through municipal planning scheme amendments have already been achieved. This was the development and amending of Environmental Significance Overlay planning controls, designed to protect and enhance source water supplies.

Agreement has been reached with DEECA Loddon Mallee for us to become the land manager of parcels of Crown Land at Malmsbury Reservoir and Lauriston township, which supports DJANDAK to implement actions and values of the DJAARA Gatjin (water) group. The actions include the development and placement of cultural materials, such as signage and interpretive displays, improved access to the site, particularly for DJAARA Elders so they can participate on Djandak (Country) experiences and cultural practices, and the maintaining of revegetation at the sites, along with weed management.

Table 1 below shows the outputs since the commencement of the AHCC program.

Table 1: Lists the overall outputs for the AHCC program from commencement (2018-19 to 2025-2026 financial years)

Activity	Units	Total outputs
Fence installed	km	53.31
Weed control (total)	Ha	474.87
Weed control established	Ha	268.59
Weed control maintained	Ha	206.27
Revegetation	Ha	211.52
Off stream watering systems	No.	92

1.2.1 Raw water monitoring parameters

Table 2 details the parameters for which monitoring is carried out in all the raw water sources from which water is extracted, treated, and then supplied as drinking water. The program is reviewed every year (or more frequently, depending on seasonal conditions). All monitoring is performed by an independent National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA) accredited laboratory.

The raw water monitoring is conducted for the purpose of managing risks to the water treatment process. The sampling frequency for each parameter can vary depending on the identified risk for the different raw water, for example, *E. coli* is sampled weekly at some locations and monthly at others. The data from the raw water monitoring program does not represent the quality of drinking water supplied to customers.

Table 2: Raw water monitoring parameters and frequency

Group	Parameter	Sampling frequency ¹
Bacteria	Coliforms	Weekly September to April and monthly remainder of year or monthly or quarterly
	<i>E. coli</i>	Weekly September to April and monthly remainder of year, weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly
	Enterococci	Weekly, fortnightly or monthly in selected supply systems
Protozoa	<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	Weekly, fortnightly or monthly in selected supply systems
	<i>Giardia</i>	
Physical and chemical	pH	Weekly
	Turbidity	Weekly September to April and monthly remainder of year or weekly or monthly or quarterly
	Colour	
	Electrical conductivity	Quarterly
	Suspended Solids	Monthly
	Dissolved Oxygen	Weekly or fortnightly or monthly
	Alkalinity	Quarterly
	Hardness	
Inorganic	Arsenic	Monthly or quarterly
	Cadmium	
	Chromium	
	Cyanide	
	Mercury	
	Nitrate	
	Selenium	
	Sodium	
	Sulphate	
	Chloride	
	Antimony	Monthly or quarterly or annually
	Barium	
	Boron	
	Beryllium	
Organic	MIB	Weekly or fortnightly September to April and monthly remainder of year or monthly
	Geosmin	September to April, or weekly, or monthly or fortnightly
	TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	Monthly or quarterly
	DOC (Dissolved Organic Carbon)	Monthly
Corrosion Products	Iron/ Iron (soluble)	Fortnightly or monthly or quarterly
	Manganese/Manganese (soluble)	
	Copper	Monthly or quarterly
	Lead	
	Zinc	
	Nickel	
Cyanobacteria (Blue Green Algae)	BGA count	Weekly September to April monthly remainder of the year or monthly September to April, or weekly or monthly
	BGA ID	
	Biovolume	
Green Algae	Green Algae	Weekly September to April monthly remainder of the year or monthly September to April, or weekly or monthly
Bromide	Bromide	Monthly or quarterly
Fluoride	Fluoride	Quarterly
Nutrients	Total phosphorus	Quarterly
	Total nitrogen	
Organic (Fungicides/Herbicides/Insecticides)	Numerous (refer Appendix B)	Six monthly or annual

Note:

¹ Water sampling areas are assessed individually and the sampling frequencies for each parameter are allocated depending on the risk.

1.3 Water Supply Systems

A summary of general water supply system information is presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Water Sampling Area, Population, Source Water, Storage & Water Treatment Plant information for 2025/26

Water sampling area	Population supplied ¹	Source water	Raw water storage	Water treatment plant
Axedale	430	Upper Coliban Reservoir Lauriston Reservoir Malmsbury Reservoir Lake Eppalock Waranga Western Channel	Sandhurst Reservoir	Bendigo
Bendigo Northern	36,000			
Bendigo Southern	40,680			
Bendigo Spring Gully	12,840			
Bendigo Raywood	200			
Bendigo Sebastian	180			
Big Hill	950			
Epsom - Huntly	12,050			
Junortoun	3,460			
Maiden Gully - Marong	7,590			
Strathfieldsaye	7,650			
Boort	840	Waranga Western Channel	Boort Basin	Boort
Bridgewater-Inglewood	1,390	South West Loddon Pipeline Loddon River	Bridgewater Basins	Bridgewater
Castlemaine	11,780	Upper Coliban Reservoir Lauriston Reservoir Malmsbury Reservoir	McCay Reservoir	Castlemaine
Fryerstown	180			
Guildford	280			
Harcourt	1120			
Maldon	1770			
Newstead	840			
Taradale - Elphinstone	510			
Cohuna	2,490	Gunbower Creek	Nil	Cohuna
Echuca	15,250	Murray River	Nil	Echuca
Elmore	840	Groundwater Bore No.3 Groundwater Bore No.4	Nil	Elmore
Goornong	450	Campaspe River	Goornong Basin	Goornong
Gunbower	350	Taylors Creek	Nil	Gunbower
Heathcote	2260	Caledonia Reservoir Lake Eppalock Waranga Western Channel Upper Coliban Reservoir Lauriston Reservoir Malmsbury Reservoir	Caledonia Reservoir	Heathcote
Tooborac	110			
Korong Vale	210			
Wedderburn	880			
Kyneton	6,800	Lauriston Reservoir	Lauriston Reservoir	Kyneton
Malmsbury	800	Upper Coliban Reservoir		
Tylden	320	South West Loddon Pipeline (SWLP) Loddon River	Laanecoorie Raw Water tanks (SWLP supply only)	Laanecoorie
Bealiba	150			
Dunolly	770			
Laanecoorie	70			
Tarnagulla	190	Gunbower Creek Cohuna Channel	Nil	Leitchville
Leitchville	390			
Lockington	510	Waranga Western Channel	Lockington Basins	Lockington

Water sampling area	Population supplied ¹	Source water	Raw water storage	Water treatment plant
Pyramid Hill	580	Pyramid Hill Channel	Pyramid Hill Basin	Pyramid Hill
Rochester	2,950	Waranga Western Channel Campaspe River	Nil	Rochester
Serpentine	150	East Loddon stock and domestic pipeline	Serpentine Raw Water Tank	Serpentine
Trentham	1620	Groundwater Reservoir 1 and 2	Trentham Reservoir 1 and 2	Trentham
Total Population Supplied	178,880			

Note:

1 Population is calculated using property connection numbers multiplied by mean household size from the 2021 census.

1.4 Water sampling areas

A network reconfiguration led to a review of the Bendigo (Southern) and Bendigo (Spring Gully) water sampling areas (WSA). The reconfigured section of water main was located along their shared boundary. The section impacted approximately 60 properties, that were previously supplied from Bendigo (Southern), where then supplied from Bendigo (Spring Gully) WSA. The notification of the amendments to the WSA's, together with the required documentation were submitted to DH within 10 days as required in SDWR Part 3, Section 12, and acknowledged by DH.

2 Drinking water treatment processes

2.1 Water treatment

Table 4 provides a summary of the water treatment processes used to produce drinking water for each water sampling area¹ and the chemicals that are added during the various water treatment processes.

Appendix C contains a more detailed version of the table below.

Table 4: Water treatment processes

Water sampling area	Treatment plant	Treatment process	Added substances
Axedale Bendigo Northern Bendigo Southern Bendigo Spring Gully Bendigo Raywood Bendigo Sebastian Big Hill Epsom - Huntly Junortoun Maiden Gully - Marong Strathfieldsaye	Bendigo	Oxidation Coagulation/flocculation Microfiltration Ozonation BAC filtration Fluoridation pH correction Chloramination/Chlorination	Potassium permanganate Carbon dioxide Aluminium chlorohydrate (ACH) Ozone Hydrofluorosilicic acid Lime Chlorine gas Ammonia
Boort	Boort	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Dual-media filtration pH correction Chlorination	Powdered Activated Carbon ² (PAC) Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Caustic soda Chlorine gas
Bridgewater- Inglewood	Bridgewater	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Dual-media filtration GAC filtration UV irradiation pH correction Chlorination/ Chloramination ³	PAC Ultrion Caustic soda Chlorine gas Ammonia
Castlemaine Fryerstown Guildford Harcourt Maldon Newstead Taradale - Elphinstone	Castlemaine	Coagulation/flocculation Microfiltration Ozonation BAC filtration Fluoridation UV irradiation pH correction Chlorination	Carbon dioxide ACH Ozone Hydrofluorosilicic acid Lime Chlorine gas
Cohuna	Cohuna	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Oxidation Dual-media filtration pH correction Chlorination Fluoridation	PAC Caustic soda Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Chlorine gas Sodium hypochlorite Sodium Fluoride

Water sampling area	Treatment plant	Treatment process	Added substances
Echuca	Echuca	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Oxidation Dual-media filtration Fluoridation – off-line UV irradiation pH correction Chlorination	PAC Caustic soda Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Chlorine gas Sodium hypochlorite
Elmore	Elmore	pH correction UV irradiation	Caustic soda
Goornong	Goornong	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Sand filtration pH correction Chlorination	PAC ² Aluminium sulphate Soda ash Sodium hypochlorite
Gunbower	Gunbower	Ion Exchange – Off-line Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Microfiltration GAC filtration UV irradiation Chlorination	PAC ² ACH Caustic soda Calcium Hypochlorite
Heathcote Tooborac	Heathcote	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Oxidation Dual-media filtration UV irradiation pH correction Chlorination/ Chloramination ³	PAC Caustic soda Aluminium sulphate Sodium hypochlorite Polyelectrolyte Chlorine gas Ammonia
Korong Vale Wedderburn	Korong Vale	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Dual-media filtration UV irradiation pH correction Chloramination	PAC ² Caustic soda Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Chlorine gas Ammonia
Kyneton Malmsbury Tylden	Kyneton	Coagulation/flocculation Microfiltration Ozonation BAC filtration Fluoridation UV irradiation pH correction Chlorination	Carbon dioxide ACH Ozone Hydrofluorosilicic acid Lime Chlorine gas
Bealiba Dunolly Laanecoorie Tarnagulla	Laanecoorie	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Oxidation -off-line Dual Media filtration UV irradiation pH correction Chlorination/ Chloramination ³	PAC Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Caustic soda Chlorine gas Ammonia Sodium hypochlorite

Water sampling area	Treatment plant	Treatment process	Added substances
Leitchville	Leitchville	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Microfiltration pH correction UV irradiation Chlorination	PAC Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Caustic soda Chlorine gas
Lockington	Lockington	Coagulation/flocculation DAFF pH correction Chlorination	PAC ² ACH Polyelectrolyte Caustic soda Calcium Hypochlorite
Pyramid Hill	Pyramid Hill	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Dual-media filtration pH correction Chlorination	PAC Aluminium sulphate ACH Polyelectrolyte Caustic soda Chlorine gas
Rochester	Rochester	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Microfiltration GAC filtration pH correction Chlorination	PAC ² Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Chlorine gas Caustic Soda
Serpentine	Serpentine	Coagulation/flocculation Clarification Dual-media filtration pH correction Chlorination	Aluminium sulphate Polyelectrolyte Caustic soda Chlorine gas
Trentham	Trentham	Ultrafiltration GAC filtration Chlorination	Calcium Hypochlorite

Note:

- 1 A water sampling area is a discrete area of similar water quality.
- 2 There is no permanent PAC dosing system at these treatment plants; however, there is provision for a mobile PAC dosing system to be added into the process when required.
- 3 Primary disinfection occurs through chlorination, and then the treated water is chloraminated, to maintain disinfection residual for a longer period of time.

2.2 Improvements to water supply and treatment

The major water treatment plant improvement works which were carried out in 2025/26 are captured in Table 5.

Table 5: Treatment plant key improvements 2025/26

Water Treatment Plant	Key Improvement Works
Bendigo	Two ozone generators upgraded as part of standard maintenance
Boort	Basin aeration added to reduce soluble metals and reduce algal byproducts in raw water.
Bridgewater	Chlorine system replaced to improve reliability of disinfection Replaced UVT analyser to improve plant reliability due to false reading from the old system
Cohuna	Additional turbidity monitoring equipment installed on clarifiers Automation of some process critical valves
Echuca	Chlorine dosing system upgraded, improving dosing accuracy, reliability and safety
Heathcote	Clarifier repaired, enabling more consistent plant performance and improving resilience of the plant
Korong Vale	Signalling infrastructure replaced, improving security of raw water supply via more reliable data Generator installed and VSDs upgraded, improving plant resilience in event of power outage Chlorine dosing system upgraded, improving dosing accuracy, reliability and safety
Kyneton	Kyneton treated water storage liner was replaced. Two x 1.5ML new treated water storages added for security of supply.
Laanecoorie	Chemical dosing system augmentations to improve pH and disinfection consistency, and plant reliability VSD and piping upgrades, improving distribution pipeline integrity and security of supply PLC (control system) upgrade, improving plant reliability
Lockington	DAFF saturator replaced, and dedicated air supply installed to improve plant reliability Filter backwash blower replaced to address failure risk Filter media replaced to improve plant performance and water quality
Pyramid Hill	PAC dosing system brought online to treat taste and odour
Rochester	Waranga channel High Street raw water pumps replaced and commissioned.
Serpentine	Repairs to raw water tank undertaken. Raw water tank bypass line restored, enabling raw water tank to be taken off-line when required.
Trentham	Chlorine gas dosing system replaced with chlorine tablet dosing system.

The Kalimna treated water basin, part of the Castlemaine system was taken off-line for six weeks for the basin to be refurbished.

In 2025, a structural assessment of the Echuca tower was undertaken. The assessment found that the tower was built to different construction standards more than a century ago (the tower was built in 1915) and has exceeded its expected lifespan. The tower was part of the Echuca network, and its decommissioning has resulted in the installation of a booster pump station, enabling the elimination of a safety hazard (the tower) and providing higher and more consistent pressure to town.

In Heathcote an old water valve between a treated water main and raw water main was identified and removed, eliminating contamination risk from raw water entering the potable network

We have replaced approximately 6.1 kilometres of aging water mains (up to 300mm) at a cost of \$1.03M. over the past 12 months, as part of our ongoing water mains renewal program. These water mains are replaced on a priority basis by analysing a range of criteria including risks to customers, the number of recorded failures, the number of customers impacted and the assessed remaining useful life of the asset.

In 2025/26, the air scouring/mains flushing program cleaned 257 kilometres of water mains. The following table details the areas where this work was completed.

Area	Kilometers	Connections	Customers	Method
Ascot	257	11,340	25,832	Air scour
East Bendigo				
White Hills				
Long Gully				
Maiden Gully				
Bendigo Central				Flush

Our ongoing water mains cleaning and renewal program helps protect the integrity of the water system; enhances the quality of the drinking water we supply to customers and ensures our water continues to meet the objectives of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

The detail in this report is focused on the management of drinking water quality. We compile an Annual Report that encompasses all our business activities, including financial statements, which contain details on our capital expenditure. This report is available on our website.

2.3 Issues

During 2025/26 the drinking water supplied to our customers was of a high standard, except as described below.

As required under the SDW Regulations 2025, Part 4, Section 16 (1)(2)(3) & (4), during 2025/26, Coliban Water had one notification to the DH for an exceedance to the health standard for a chlorine sample. Refer section 4.1 for details.

2.3.1 Event Incidents reported to Department of Health

On 9 January 2026, during an extreme fire danger day, a burst occurred on the main pipeline supplying Harcourt, causing the Harcourt tank to drain. A large bushfire was burning in the area and access was restricted. As the network had been depressurised, the safety of the drinking water supply could not be confirmed due to the potential for microbial and/or chemical intrusion. DH was advised of the event, and a Section 22 report was submitted to notify DH that a "Do Not Drink" advisory was being implemented. Refer to Section 3.1 for more details.

On 22 January 2026, routine weekly sampling at the Sebastian contact point returned a chlorine result above the ADWG health guideline value. An immediate investigation confirmed the result was a temporary spike and that chlorine levels in the drinking water supplied to customers remained within the ADWG health guideline value. DH was advised of the event, and Section 18 report and Regulation 20 notification were submitted. Refer to Section 4.1 for more details.

2.3.2 Fluoride Notifications

The Bendigo, Castlemaine and Kyneton fluoride systems all operated in line with the *Code of Practice for fluoridation of drinking water supplies -second edition*. As required under Section 7.2 of the Code of Practice.

On two occasions Coliban Water notified DH of fluoride readings at the Cohuna WTP that exceeded the ADWG health guideline value. These notifications were reported within the timeframe as detailed in Table 3 of the Code of Practice.

DH was notified on the 9 April that the Cohuna fluoride system had exceeded the fluoride concentration of 1.5mg/L at the clearwater well dose point. The fluoride system had shutdown automatically, and the clearwater well, was isolated from supplying fluoridated water to the treated water tanks and the town supply. The water being supplied into the network and to our customers was confirmed to be within the ADWG health guideline value and has no risk to public health. The clearwater well was drained and it was found because of a buildup of crystallised fluoride around the end of the fluoride dosing pipe, some of these crystals had dropped off and caused the fluoride level to rise.

The investigation into the above incident identified some corrective actions to be undertaken. During one of the actions tasks the fluoride analyser exceeded 1.5mg/L. The water treatment plant was off during this time and the clearwater well was drained following the works. The water in the clearwater well was isolated and did not enter the drinking water supply and as such there was no risk to public health. DH was advised of this fluoride analyser exceedance as required.

All fluoridated systems (Bendigo, Castlemaine, Cohuna and Kyneton), operated within their operating range (Operating target +/- 0.1 mg/L). Refer Table 11 for details.

3 Emergency Incident and Event Management

Sections 3.1 and 4.1 include all Section 22 reports, Section 18 reports and Regulation 20 notifications that were made to DH during 2025/26

3.1 Section 22 Reports

The following report was made to the Water Unit of DH under Section 22 of the Act. The Section 22 report was submitted to DH within the required timeframe.

Table 6: Section 22 Reports 2025/26

Water sampling area/date	Nature of incident	Actions taken in response to incident
'Do Not Drink' Advisory		
Harcourt 9 January – 17 January 2026	- A burst on the pipeline supplying the township and water sampling area of Harcourt drained the Harcourt tanks, resulting in zero pressure in the network and the potential for contamination to occur via ingress. - There was an active bushfire in the area with the town of Harcourt being evacuated. - Information was presented to DH, and it was agreed that a 'Do not Drink' advisory would be put in place.	<u>Corrective actions:</u> - Once access into the area was approved, the burst was repaired, the Harcourt tanks were filled and the network recharged in stages. - The network was able to be divided into two, so the area not impacted by the fire could be flushed twice, with the first round of customer tap water quality sampling undertaken. (Free chlorine, total chlorine, E. coli, coliforms, pH, turbidity, colour, metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi volatile organic compounds (semi VOCs)) - The fire impacted area was checked and any repairs completed before it was recharged, flushed twice, and the first round of customer tap sampling completed. (Free chlorine, total chlorine, E. coli, coliforms, pH, turbidity, colour, metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi volatile organic compounds (semi VOCs)) - A second round of customer tap samples were collected 24 hours later (Free chlorine, total chlorine, E. coli, coliforms, pH, turbidity, colour) - All fire plugs and backflow devices were checked. - Following completion of actions, and confirmation the water was safe to drink, the do not drink advisory was lifted. <u>Customer/Community Communication:</u> - A range of channels were used, including: - media release - social media (Facebook) - Coliban Water website - SMS messages - Messaging via Vic Emergency App - Signage was placed at the public toilet - Bottled water was provided to the Harcourt community, together with water trailers for public access. - Coliban Water staff attended the water trailers during the day to assist anyone collecting water. - Coliban Water staff were also in attendance at the community centre in Castlemaine.

4 Drinking Water Quality Standards

The SDWR 2025, Section 16 (Drinking water quality standards) details the health based and aesthetic parameters that require sampling with compliance aligning with Table 10.6 of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. Any exceedance of water quality standards requiring notification to the DH was completed within the required timeframe.

4.1 Section 18 Notifications

Coliban Water did have one non-compliant water quality result that required a Section 18 report to the Water Program of DH under Section 18 of the Act during 2025-26.

Water sampling area/date	Nature of incident	Actions taken in response to incident
Sebastian 22 January 2026	A routine sample collected from the Sebastian contact point, had a total chlorine result of 8.5mg/L, which exceeded the ADWG health-based guideline value (5.0 mg/L).	The site was attended and additional samples were taken that were compliant with the guideline value. Investigation identified a pumping issue that caused a chlorine spike when the sample was collected. Customer tap sample points located close to the contact point were sampled to verify the drinking water customers received were below the guideline value. The chlorine analyser located at the Sebastian contact point was also verified to be accurate, which also confirmed the high chlorine reading was not a true reflection of the water being supplied to the customers. The pump was replaced to remove this issue.

4.2 Water Quality Sampling Program

The SDWR 2025 requires water suppliers to incorporate a water sampling program into their risk management plan. Our water sampling program is reviewed annually. It is separated into three categories - raw water, storage tanks and contact points (i.e. storage tanks that are used to provide contact time for chlorine or chloramine disinfection) and distribution networks (i.e. customer taps).

Raw water sites include catchments, raw water storage reservoirs/basins and irrigation storages. Storage tanks and contact points include storage tanks in both our potable and non-potable (regulated) water supplies. The final verification monitoring is carried out at customer tap sites.

The parameters included in the sampling program include the SDWR 2025 Part 4-Drinking water quality standards Section 16 (1)(2)(3) & (4) requirements, and the parameters which are included in the program are based on system-specific and catchment-based risk assessments.

During the review process consideration is given to:

- ADWG recommendations.
- The likelihood of a particular hazard being present in the water, and historical data trends; and
- Operational changes.

Regarding raw water quality monitoring, additional consideration was given to seasonal impacts on water quality and data required to assess microbial hazards.

The following changes were made to the water quality sampling programs for 2025/26:

1. Raw Water:
 - Taste & Odour monitoring has been reduced for Laanecoorie WTP due to change of source water.
2. Tanks/contact points:
 - THM monitoring post the Tarnagulla tank was reduced due to change in source water.
3. Customer Tap:
 - An annual sample for PFAS has been added to each water sampling area at a customer tap.
 - Aluminum sampling has been transferred from customer tap to contact points.
4. Supernatant:
 - Taste & Odour sampling for Cohuna, Echuca, Laanecoorie and Rochester was reduced as the supernatant return is not returned to the head of the treatment plant to be processed.

4.2.1 Samples within the Water Quality Sampling Program that were not collected.

During 2025-26 the following samples were not collected and analysed as outlined in our water quality sampling program.

Parameter/Frequency	Water Sampling Area	Sampling Location	Reason
<i>Escherichia coli</i> - Weekly	Big Hill	Contact point - Big Hill tank Contact point - Belvoir Park tank	Planned fuel reduction burn being conducted by DEECA restricted access to the sample points. ALS sampler was unable to collect the required samples.
Chlorine (Total) - Weekly	Big Hill	Contact point - Big Hill tank Contact point - Belvoir Park tank	Planned fuel reduction burn being conducted by DEECA restricted access to the sample points. ALS sampler was unable to collect the required samples.
Turbidity - Monthly	Goornong	Contact Point	ALS scheduling error led to these monthly samples being missed from collection & testing.
THM's - Monthly	Goornong	Contact Point	
Colour, Electrical Conductivity, pH & Temperature - Monthly	Goornong	Contact Point	

4.3 Water Quality Monitoring results

Table 7 is a comparison of analysis for each parameter in the monitoring programs for the period from 2023/24 to 2025/26.

Sections 4.4.1 and 4.4.2 contain the individual data tables for each parameter sampled, as per the monitoring program undertaken during 2025/26.

4.3.1 Analysis of Water Sampling Results

We have carried out substantial water quality monitoring for a number of years. Table 7 refers to compliance with the parameters in our drinking water sampling programs for 2023/24 to 2025/26.

Table 7: Water Quality Parameter Comparison Results 2023/24 to 2025/26

Parameter	Compliant areas 2023/24	Compliant areas 2024/25	Compliant areas 2025/26
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ¹	100%	100%	100%
Trihalomethanes ¹	90%	100%	100%
Turbidity ²	100%	100%	100%
Chloroacetic acid ¹	100%	100%	100%
Dichloroacetic acid ¹	100%	100%	100%
Trichloroacetic acid ¹	100%	100%	100%
Bromate ¹	100%	100%	100%
Formaldehyde ¹	100%	100%	100%
Aluminium ²	100%	100%	100%
Fluoride ¹	100%	100%	100%
Arsenic ¹	100%	100%	100%
Cadmium ¹	100%	100%	100%
Chlorine ¹	100%	100%	100%
Chromium ¹	100%	100%	100%
Cyanide ¹	100%	100%	100%
Mercury ¹	100%	100%	100%
Nitrate ¹	100%	100%	100%
Selenium ¹	100%	100%	100%
Sulphate ¹	100%	100%	100%
Manganese ¹	100%	100%	100%
Copper ¹	100%	100%	100%
Lead ¹	100%	100%	100%
Nickel ¹	100%	100%	100%
Gross alpha ¹	100%	100%	100%
Gross beta ¹	100%	100%	100%
Nitrite ¹	100%	100%	100%
pH ²	71%	71%	71%
Hardness ²	98%	100%	100%
Iron ²	100%	100%	100%
True Colour ²	100%	100%	100%
Electrical Conductivity ²	95%	100%	100%
Sodium ²	100%	100%	100%
Chloride ²	98%	100%	100%
Zinc ²	100%	100%	100%
Ammonia ²	100%	98%	98%
NDMA ¹	100%	100%	100%
Total no. water sampling areas	42	42	42

Note:

- 1 This parameter is a water quality standard with reference to the relevant ADWG health-based guideline value.
- 2 This parameter has an ADWG aesthetic guideline value.

Our compliance against all sampled parameters in 2025/26, other than pH and Ammonia, is consistent with the previous two years. The level of non-compliance with pH continues to be consistent with previous years, and ammonia having one elevated sample. Sections 4.3.1.1 contain the details for the non-compliant parameters for 2025/26.

4.3.1.1 Actions undertaken for Aesthetic Parameters that were not met

pH

Twelve water sampling areas did not meet the ADWG aesthetic guideline value range for pH (i.e. pH 6.5 to 8.5). Eight of these areas are supplied with treated water from chloramination treatment systems. An elevated pH (>8.0) is maintained to improve the effectiveness of chloramination.

Additionally, we have systems that have long cement-lined mains in the network, which, with their constant contact with water, have alkalinity drawn out from the cement, and this causes a rise in alkalinity levels and an increase in the pH of the water. We have a routine water mains renewal program to replace the water mains based on a number of criteria, such as age, size, population served, and frequency of failures etc. These cement-lined pipes will be renewed with pipes made of appropriate material when they meet the criteria for renewal.

Ammonia

The Tarnagulla water sampling area is supplied from the Laanecoorie WTP. A short-term operational issue impacted the operation of the ammonia dosing system, causing a result higher than the aesthetic guideline value in the ADWG to be recorded. Ammonia system optimisation has resolved the issue.

4.4 Water Quality Data for Sampling Areas: 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026

As described in Section 4.2, we carry out a comprehensive water quality monitoring program that includes collecting samples from various points in the water supply system:

- Exit points from plants and water storage tanks into the distribution system.
- Customer tap sites, which are dedicated sampling points that are prior to the customer's water meter.

4.4.1 Treated Water results from plant exit/storage points.

Following are tables that detail the sampling results for each parameter at plant exit/storage points in each of the water sampling areas.

***Escherichia coli* (E. coli) – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26**

E. coli is monitored in all water sampling areas as it is an indicator of the potential presence of faecal contamination in water.

Table 8: *E. coli* results for plant exit/storage points (water quality standard: No *E. coli* per 100mL of drinking water).

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum detected (cfu/100mL)	Number of detections and investigations conducted (s.22)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	weekly	52	0	0	0
Bealiba	weekly	53	0	0	0
Bendigo (Northern)	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Bendigo (Southern)	twice weekly	212	0	0	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Big Hill ²	weekly	102	0	0	0
Boort	weekly	104	0	0	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	weekly	106	0	0	0
Castlemaine ³	twice weekly / weekly	149	0	0	0

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum detected (cfu/100m L)	Number of detections and investigations conducted (s.22)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Cohuna	weekly	106	0	0	0
Dunolly	weekly	53	0	0	0
Echuca ⁴	weekly	91	0	0	0
Elmore	weekly	52	0	0	0
Epsom - Huntly	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Fryerstown	weekly	52	0	0	0
Goornong	weekly	104	0	0	0
Guildford	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Gunbower	weekly	106	0	0	0
Harcourt	twice weekly / weekly	158	0	0	0
Heathcote	weekly	52	0	0	0
Junortoun	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Korong Vale	weekly	104	0	0	0
Kyneton	twice weekly / weekly	158	0	0	0
Laanecoorie	weekly	53	0	0	0
Leitchville	weekly	53	0	0	0
Lockington	weekly	52	0	0	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	twice weekly	159	0	0	0
Maldon	weekly	52	0	0	0
Malmsbury	twice weekly / weekly	158	0	0	0
Newstead	weekly	52	0	0	0
Pyramid Hill	weekly	53	0	0	0
Raywood	weekly	52	0	0	0
Rochester	weekly	52	0	0	0
Sebastian	weekly	52	0	0	0
Serpentine	weekly	52	0	0	0
Strathfieldsaye	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	twice weekly	106	0	0	0
Tarnagulla	weekly	53	0	0	0
Tooborac	weekly	52	0	0	0
Trentham	weekly	52	0	0	0
Tylden	weekly	52	0	0	0
Wedderburn	weekly	104	0	0	0

Note:

- 1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples points within each water sampling area.
- 2 Sample not collected as per the monitoring program, refer Section 4.2.1 for further detail.
- 3 Kalimna Basin part of Castlemaine system was off-line for maintenance from 9 June 2025- 2 September 2025, with no samples collected during this period.
- 4 Echuca Tower was taken off-line 1 April 2025 reducing sampling to one sample point.

Trihalomethanes (THM) – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

THM are formed as a byproduct, predominantly when chlorine is used to disinfect water to make it safe for drinking. They represent one group of chemicals generally referred to as disinfection byproducts.

Table 9: Trihalomethanes results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard for THM is 0.25 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of Samples ¹	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.1100	0.0893	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.0200	0.0135	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Big Hill	monthly	36	0.1100	0.0328	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.1100	0.0757	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	24	0.0280	0.0163	0
Castlemaine ²	monthly	22	0.0940	0.0710	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.0270	0.0165	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	0.0210	0.0149	0
Echuca ³	monthly	21	0.0250	0.0155	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.0840	0.0686	0
Goornong ⁴	monthly	23	0.1400	0.0941	0
Guildford	monthly	12	0.0940	0.0784	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	0.0500	0.0309	0
Harcourt	monthly	24	0.1100	0.0806	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.1000	0.0798	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	monthly	24	0.0870	0.0634	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	0.0180	0.0144	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.0250	0.0186	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.0230	0.0177	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.1000	0.0934	0
Malmsbury	monthly	24	0.0870	0.0655	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.0790	0.0642	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0185	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.1200	0.0970	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.0220	0.0160	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.0280	0.0224	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.0340	0.0246	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0271	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	0.0240	0.0143	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.1200	0.0928	0
Trentham	monthly	12	0.0670	0.0429	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.0810	0.0573	0
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that THM sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

- 1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples points within each area.
- 2 Kalima Basin part of Castlemaine system was off-line for maintenance from 9 June 2025– 2 September 2025, with no samples collected during this period.
- 3 Echuca Tower was taken off-line 1 April 2025 reducing sampling to one sample point.
- 4 Sample not collected as per the monitoring program, refer Section 4.2.1 for further detail.

Turbidity – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Turbidity is a measure of the particulate matter in water and is monitored in all water sampling areas. High turbidity in the reticulation may indicate poor operation of the water treatment process and/or increased risk of microbiological contamination.

Table 10: Turbidity results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard: 95th percentile of results over a 12-month period must be ≤ 5.0 NTU)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum value (NTU)	95th percentile of results (NTU)	Number of 95th percentile of results above standard
Axedale	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.6	0.5	0
Bendigo (Northern)	twice weekly	106	0.3	0.3	0
Bendigo (Southern)	twice weekly	212	0.5	0.3	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	twice weekly	106	0.5	0.3	0
Big Hill	monthly	24	0.3	0.3	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.3	0.3	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	24	0.3	0.2	0
Castlemaine	twice weekly/mthly	117	0.3	0.2	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	1.1	0.7	0
Echuca ³	monthly	21	0.2	0.1	0
Elmore	monthly	12	0.1	0.1	0
Epsom - Huntly	twice weekly	106	0.3	0.3	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Goornong ²	monthly	23	0.2	0.2	0
Guildford	twice weekly	106	0.3	0.2	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Harcourt	twice weekly/mthly	118	0.3	0.2	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.1	0.1	0
Junortoun	twice weekly	106	0.3	0.3	0
Korong Vale	monthly	24	0.7	0.4	0
Kyneton	twice weekly/mthly	118	0.3	0.2	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	0.1	0.1	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.1	0.1	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.5	0.3	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	twice weekly/mthly	118	0.3	0.3	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.3	0.3	0
Malmsbury	twice weekly/mthly	118	0.3	0.2	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.1	0.1	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.2	0.2	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	1.0	0.7	0
Strathfieldsaye	twice weekly	106	0.4	0.3	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	twice weekly	106	0.2	0.1	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	3.5	2.3	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.1	0.1	0
Trentham	monthly	12	0.2	0.1	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.2	0.1	0
Wedderburn	monthly	24	0.7	0.4	0

Note:

- 1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples points within each area.
- 2 Sample not collected as per the monitoring program, refer Section 4.2.1 for further detail.
- 3 Echuca Tower was taken off-line 1 April 2025 reducing sampling to one sample point.

Fluoride – WTP exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 11: Fluoride results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 1.5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Target optimum operating fluoride concentration (mg/L)	Max (mg/L)	Min (mg/L)	Ave (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Bendigo (Southern)	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Big Hill	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	twice weekly	104	0.9	0.980	0.780	0.889	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.8	0.810	0.700	0.755	0
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca ¹	monthly	0	0.8	0	0	0	0
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	twice weekly	104	0.9	0.980	0.780	0.889	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	twice weekly	104	0.9	0.980	0.780	0.889	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.000	0.680	0.876	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully – Marong	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury ²	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.000	0.680	0.876	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	twice weekly	104	0.9	1.100	0.780	0.917	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

1 Echuca fluoride system was shut down on 8 September 2023. A new fluoride system currently being designed.

n/a – not applicable, as the drinking water is not fluoridated.

Bromate – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 12: Bromate results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.02 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

- 1 Bromate is monitored in areas where ozone is used in treatment, as ozone can result in the production of this by-products in drinking water.
- 2 Ozone is used at the Bendigo, Castlemaine and Kyneton plants.
- 3 Ozone-based disinfection byproducts are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water we supply that has not been ozonated; therefore it is not monitored.

Formaldehyde – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 13: Formaldehyde results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.0	0.0	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

- 1 Formaldehyde is monitored in areas where ozone is used in treatment, as ozone can result in the production of this by-products in drinking water.
- 2 Ozone is used at the Bendigo, Castlemaine and Kyneton plants.
- 3 Ozone-based disinfection byproducts are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water we supply that has not been ozonated so is not monitored.

Arsenic – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 14: Arsenic results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.01 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.0005	0.0005	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that arsenic sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Nitrate – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 15: Nitrate results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 50 mg/L as nitrate, which equates to 11.2 N mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum (N mg/L)	Average (N mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Southern)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Big Hill	monthly	24	0.8	0.4	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.2	0.1	0
Castlemaine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	weekly	53	0.2	0.2	0
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Korong Vale	fortnightly	26	0.3	0.2	0
Kyneton	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.6	0.4	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	weekly	53	0.6	0.2	0
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	fortnightly	52	0.3	0.2	0

Note:

1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples within each area.

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that nitrate sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Manganese – plant exit/storage points for 2025-26

Table 16: Manganese results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.1 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Boort	weekly	52	0.028	0.004	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.010	0.003	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Cohuna	weekly	53	0.007	0.003	0
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	weekly	52	0.004	0.001	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Guildford	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Gunbower	weekly	53	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Heathcote	weekly	52	0.003	0.001	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.001	0.001	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.003	0.002	0
Laanecoorie	weekly	53	0.040	0.004	0
Leitchville	weekly	53	0.006	0.001	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.003	0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.003	0.002	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.015	0.004	0
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	weekly	52	0.001	0.001	0
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.006	0.003	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	monthly	12	0.003	0.001	0
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that manganese sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Nitrite – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 17: Nitrite Results for plant exit/storage points (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 3.0 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Southern)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Big Hill	monthly	24	0.8	0.4	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.2	0.1	0
Castlemaine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	weekly	53	0.2	0.2	0
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Korong Vale	fortnightly	26	0.3	0.2	0
Kyneton	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.6	0.4	n/a
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	weekly	53	0.6	0.2	0
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	fortnightly	52	0.3	0.2	0

Note:

1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples within each area.

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that nitrite sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Aluminium – plant exit/storage points for 2025-26

Table 18: Aluminium results (Total) for plant exit/storage points (ADWG aesthetic guideline value: 0.2 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Bendigo (Southern)	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Big Hill	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater – Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	weekly	52	0.020	0.011	0
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom – Huntly	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	weekly	52	0.020	0.011	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	weekly	52	0.020	0.011	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	weekly	52	0.030	0.013	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0
Maiden Gully – Marong	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	n/a
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	weekly	52	0.030	0.013	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	weekly	52	0.030	0.019	0
Taradale – Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that aluminium sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Iron – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 19: Iron results for plant exit/storage points (ADWG aesthetic guideline value: 0.3mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Boort	weekly	52	0.03	0.02	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Cohuna	weekly	52	<0.01	<0.01	0
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	weekly	53	<0.01	<0.01	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Guildford	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Gunbower	weekly	52	<0.01	<0.01	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Heathcote	weekly	52	<0.01	<0.01	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Laanecoorie	weekly	52	0.03	0.01	0
Leitchville	weekly	52	<0.01	<0.01	0
Lockington	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	weekly	53	<0.01	<0.01	0
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.24	0.03	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that iron sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Chlorine – plant exit/storage points for 2025/26

Table 20: Chlorine results for plant exit/storage points (ADWG health-based guideline value: 5.0mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	weekly	52	1.4	0.7	0
Bealiba	weekly	53	2.2	1.5	0
Bendigo (Northern)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Southern)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Big Hill ³	weekly	102	1.3	0.6	0
Boort	weekly	104	3.4	1.6	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	weekly	106	3.1	1.6	0
Castlemaine ²	weekly	43	1.8	1.2	0
Cohuna	weekly	106	2.8	2.0	0
Dunolly	weekly	53	2.2	1.8	0
Echuca	weekly	91	2.1	1.5	0
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Fryerstown	weekly	52	1.6	1.2	0
Goornong	weekly	104	2.6	1.2	0
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	weekly	106	3.1	1.8	0
Harcourt	weekly	52	2.8	1.5	0
Heathcote	weekly	52	2.5	2.0	0
Junortoun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Korong Vale	weekly	104	2.6	2.0	0
Kyneton	weekly	52	2.1	1.6	0
Laanecoorie	weekly	53	3.0	2.2	0
Leitchville	weekly	53	2.2	1.8	0
Lockington	weekly	52	3.4	1.9	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	weekly	53	1.3	0.7	0
Maldon	weekly	52	1.8	1.2	0
Malmsbury	weekly	52	2.0	1.4	0
Newstead	weekly	52	1.9	1.4	0
Pyramid Hill	weekly	53	2.2	1.8	0
Raywood	weekly	52	2.1	1.4	0
Rochester	weekly	52	2.0	1.6	0
Sebastian ⁴	weekly	52	8.5	2.6	1
Serpentine	weekly	52	2.7	2.0	0
Strathfieldsaye	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	weekly	53	2.9	1.8	0
Tooborac	weekly	52	2.4	1.4	0
Trentham	weekly	52	2.0	1.4	0
Tylden	weekly	52	1.9	1.5	0
Wedderburn	weekly	104	2.4	1.8	0

Note:

- 1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples within each area.
- 2 Kalimna Basin part of Castlemaine system was off-line for maintenance from 9 June 2025- 2 September 2025, with no samples collected during this period.
- 3 Sample not collected as per the monitoring program, refer Section 4.2.1 for further details
- 4 Refer section 4.1 for details

n/a – sampling is not required as there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample is collected.

Ammonia – plant exit/storage points for 2024-25

Table 21: Ammonia results for plant exit/storage points (ADWG aesthetic guideline value is 0.5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	fortnightly	27	0.360	0.247	0
Bendigo (Northern)	weekly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Bendigo (Southern)	weekly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	weekly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Big Hill	monthly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	fortnightly/monthly	39	0.280	0.115	0
Castlemaine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	weekly	53	0.480	0.178	0
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	weekly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heathcote	fortnightly	26	0.220	0.071	0
Junortoun	weekly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Korong Vale	weekly	52	0.140	0.049	0
Kyneton	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Laanecoorie	fortnightly	26	0.340	0.135	0
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	weekly/monthly	64	0.320	0.131	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	weekly	52	0.320	0.119	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla ²	weekly	53	0.600	0.186	1
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	fortnightly	52	0.210	0.063	0

Note:

- 1 The number of samples will vary due to the different number of exit/storage samples within each area.
- 2 Refer Section 4.3.1.1 for details.

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that ammonia sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

Alkalinity – plant exit/storage points for 2024-25

Table 22: Alkalinity results for plant exit/storage points – whilst there is no ADWG guideline limit for alkalinity, it is monitored for operational purposes.

Water Sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of Samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	weekly	52	100	94
Bendigo (Southern)	weekly	52	100	94
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	weekly	52	100	94
Big Hill	weekly	52	100	94
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	weekly	52	63	56
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	monthly	12	180	166
Epsom - Huntly	weekly	52	100	94
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	weekly	52	63	56
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	weekly	52	63	56
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	weekly	52	100	94
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	weekly	52	58	55
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	weekly	52	100	94
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	weekly	52	58	55
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	weekly	52	100	94
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a – sampling is not required, either because there is no definitive exit point into the water sampling area from which a sample could be collected, or Coliban Water's risk assessments has indicated that alkalinity sampling is not necessary to manage water quality risks.

4.4.2 Treated Water results from customer tap sample points

Following are tables of sampling results for each parameter at customer tap sample points in each of the sampling areas.

***Escherichia coli* (E. coli) – Customer tap sites 2025-26**

E. coli is monitored in all water sampling areas as it is an indicator of the potential presence of faecal contamination in water.

Table 23: *E. coli* results for customer tap sites: No *E. coli* per 100mL of drinking water.

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum detected (orgs/100mL)	Number of detections and investigations conducted (s.22)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Bealiba	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Bendigo (Northern)	Weekly	136	0	0	0
Bendigo (Southern)	Weekly	147	0	0	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	Weekly	76	0	0	0
Big Hill	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Boort	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Castlemaine	Weekly	76	0	0	0
Cohuna	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Dunolly	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Echuca	Weekly	88	0	0	0
Elmore	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Epsom - Huntly	Weekly	76	0	0	0
Fryerstown	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Goornong	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Guildford	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Gunbower	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Harcourt ¹	Weekly	51	0	0	0
Heathcote	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Junortoun	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Korong Vale	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Kyneton	Weekly	64	0	0	0
Laanecoorie	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Leitchville	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Lockington	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	Weekly	64	0	0	0
Maldon	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Malmsbury	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Newstead	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Pyramid Hill	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Raywood	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Rochester	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Sebastian	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Serpentine	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Strathfieldsaye	Weekly	64	0	0	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Tarnagulla	Weekly	53	0	0	0
Tooborac	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Trentham	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Tylden	Weekly	52	0	0	0
Wedderburn	Weekly	52	0	0	0

Note:

- 1 During the Harcourt 'Do not Drink' (Bush fire event), sampling was undertaken as part of the incident. These samples are recorded as non-routine and not captured in this data set.
- 2 Areas with populations greater than 5,000 have additional sampling to the one sample per week (one additional sample per month for each 5,000 above 5,000 population in accordance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011)).

Trihalomethanes (THM) – Customer tap sites 2025-26

THM are formed as a byproduct, predominantly when chlorine is used to disinfect water for drinking. They represent one group of chemicals generally referred to as disinfection by-products.

Table 24: THM results for customer tap sites (Water quality standards for THM 0.25 mg/L of drinking water.)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.1200	0.0891	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.0180	0.0135	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.0330	0.0239	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.0250	0.0200	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.0260	0.0200	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.1000	0.0425	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.1100	0.0931	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.0300	0.0192	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.0740	0.0550	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.0300	0.0207	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	0.0230	0.0151	0
Echuca	monthly	12	0.0260	0.0190	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.0300	0.0251	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.1100	0.0828	0
Goornong	monthly	12	0.1600	0.0985	0
Guildford	monthly	12	0.0960	0.0755	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	0.0640	0.0375	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.1000	0.0836	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.1100	0.0825	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.0290	0.0204	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.0270	0.0198	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.1000	0.0602	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	0.0210	0.0149	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.0340	0.0252	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.0320	0.0234	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.0310	0.0230	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.1300	0.1056	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.1000	0.0719	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.0920	0.0733	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.0550	0.0329	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.1300	0.1116	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.0270	0.0194	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.1200	0.0763	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.0650	0.0388	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.0270	0.0201	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.0940	0.0690	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	0.0260	0.0149	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.1600	0.1089	0
Trentham	monthly	12	0.0800	0.0529	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.0760	0.0578	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	0.0290	0.0195	0

Turbidity – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Turbidity is a measure of the particulate matter in water and is monitored in all water sampling areas. High turbidity in the reticulation may indicate poor operation of the water treatment process and/or increased risk of microbiological contamination.

Table 25: Turbidity results for customer tap sites (Water quality standards: 95th percentile of results over a 12-month period must be ≤ 5.0 NTU)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum value (NTU)	95th percentile of results (NTU)	Number of 95th percentile of results above standard
Axedale	weekly	52	0.3	0.3	0
Bealiba	weekly	53	0.6	0.3	0
Bendigo (Northern)	weekly	52	0.4	0.2	0
Bendigo (Southern)	weekly	53	0.8	0.3	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	weekly	52	0.3	0.2	0
Big Hill	weekly	52	0.3	0.3	0
Boort	weekly	52	0.2	0.2	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	weekly	53	0.5	0.2	0
Castlemaine	weekly	52	0.4	0.2	0
Cohuna	weekly	53	0.8	0.3	0
Dunolly	weekly	53	0.6	0.3	0
Echuca	weekly	52	0.2	0.2	0
Elmore	weekly	52	0.2	0.1	0
Epsom - Huntly	weekly	53	0.6	0.3	0
Fryerstown	weekly	52	1.4	0.4	0
Goornong	weekly	52	0.3	0.2	0
Guildford	weekly	52	1.3	0.2	0
Gunbower	weekly	53	0.9	0.2	0
Harcourt ¹	weekly	51	0.2	0.2	0
Heathcote	weekly	52	0.2	0.1	0
Junortoun	weekly	52	1.5	0.2	0
Korong Vale ²	weekly	52	13.0	0.4	0
Kyneton	weekly	52	1.4	0.2	0
Laanecoorie	weekly	53	2.3	0.3	0
Leitchville	weekly	53	1.4	0.2	0
Lockington ³	weekly	52	5.4	0.3	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	weekly	53	1.3	0.3	0
Maldon	weekly	52	0.6	0.2	0
Malmsbury	weekly	52	0.3	0.2	0
Newstead	weekly	52	0.4	0.2	0
Pyramid Hill	weekly	53	0.3	0.2	0
Raywood	weekly	52	0.4	0.2	0
Rochester	weekly	52	0.1	0.1	0
Sebastian	weekly	52	0.2	0.2	0
Serpentine	weekly	52	0.8	0.3	0
Strathfieldsaye	weekly	52	0.4	0.2	0
Taradale - Elphinstone ⁴	weekly	52	38.0	0.6	0
Tarnagulla ⁵	weekly	53	5.9	1.2	0
Tooborac	weekly	52	0.4	0.1	0
Trentham	weekly	52	0.2	0.1	0
Tylden	weekly	52	0.2	0.2	0
Wedderburn	weekly	52	1.2	0.8	0

Notes:

- 1 During the Harcourt 'Do not Drink' (Bush fire event), sampling was undertaken as part of the incident. These samples are recorded as non-routine and not captured in this data set.
- 2 Site was inspected and mains flushing was undertaken and resampling to verify back to normal range. No further high readings have been received
- 3 Flushing following a burst main coincided with this sampling result.
- 4 Site was inspected and was near the end of the main. Consider high flush may have stirred up the sediment on the bottom of the main. Main was flushed and no further high readings were recorded
- 5 No issues identified and no customer complaints received, considered an abnormal result

Chloroacetic Acid – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 26: Chloroacetic acid results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.15 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Elmore ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0

Note:

- Chlorine is not used for disinfection at Elmore. Chlorine-based disinfection by-products are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water supplied by Coliban Water that has not been chlorinated.

Dichloroacetic Acid – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 27: Dichloroacetic acid results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.1 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	0.006	0.004	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	0.014	0.012	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	0.010	0.006	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	0.010	0.006	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	0.006	0.004	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	0.006	0.005	0
Boort	quarterly	4	0.013	0.008	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	0.007	0.004	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	0.017	0.014	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	0.007	0.005	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	0.013	0.008	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	0.009	0.005	0
Elmore ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	0.007	0.005	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	0.026	0.016	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	0.014	0.009	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	0.015	0.008	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	0.020	0.012	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	0.028	0.022	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	0.021	0.013	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	0.010	0.006	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	0.007	0.005	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	0.017	0.014	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	0.009	0.007	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	0.016	0.010	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	0.008	0.005	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	0.006	0.004	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	0.007	0.005	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	0.028	0.019	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	0.018	0.013	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	0.011	0.008	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	0.021	0.010	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	0.008	0.006	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.007	<0.007	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	0.016	0.013	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	0.005	0.003	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	0.019	0.015	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	0.010	0.007	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	0.021	0.020	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	0.025	0.017	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	0.017	0.013	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	0.019	0.011	0

Note:

- Chlorine is not used for disinfection at Elmore. Chlorine-based disinfection by-products are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water supplied by Coliban Water that has not been chlorinated.

Trichloroacetic Acid – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 28: Trichloroacetic acid results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value 0.1 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	0.007	0.005	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	0.006	0.003	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	0.006	0.003	0
Elmore ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	0.009	0.007	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	0.005	0.003	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	0.008	0.006	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	0.022	0.012	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	0.014	0.011	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	0.006	0.003	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	0.009	0.006	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	0.010	0.007	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	0.010	0.006	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	0.013	0.011	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	0.013	0.010	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	0.008	0.005	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	0.008	0.006	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	0.010	0.009	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	0.012	0.007	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	0.034	0.019	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	0.008	0.007	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0

Note:

- Chlorine is not used for disinfection at Elmore. Chlorine-based disinfection by-products are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water supplied by Coliban Water that has not been chlorinated.

Bromate – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 29: Bromate results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.02 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

- 1 Bromate is monitored in areas where ozone is used in treatment, as ozone can result in the production of this by-products in drinking water.
- 2 Ozone is used at the Bendigo, Castlemaine and Kyneton plants. Review of historical data has identified sampling areas supplied from Castlemaine and Kyneton plants as low risk; therefore, monitoring is quarterly in those areas.
- 3 Ozone-based disinfection by-products are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water we supply that has not been ozonated.

Formaldehyde – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 30: Formaldehyde results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	<0.05	<0.05	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.05	<0.05	0
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

- 1 Formaldehyde is monitored in areas where ozone is used in treatment, as ozone can result in the production of this by-products in drinking water.
- 2 Ozone is used at the Bendigo, Castlemaine and Kyneton plants. Review of historical data has identified sampling areas supplied from Castlemaine and Kyneton plants as low risk; therefore, monitoring is quarterly in those areas.
- 3 Ozone-based disinfection by-products are not deemed to be a significant risk in drinking water we supply that has not been ozonated.

Fluoride – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 31: Fluoride results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 1.5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Target optimum operating fluoride concentration (mg/L)	Max (mg/L)	Min (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.9	0.960	0.860	0.913	0
Bealiba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.9	1.000	0.840	0.908	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.9	0.970	0.860	0.905	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.9	0.970	0.880	0.931	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.9	0.980	0.850	0.908	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.9	0.970	0.830	0.896	0
Cohuna	weekly	53	0.8	0.950	0.690	0.759	0
Dunolly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Echuca ¹	weekly	n/a	0.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.9	0.980	0.780	0.911	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.9	0.930	0.840	0.886	0
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	monthly	12	0.9	0.980	0.790	0.893	0
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.9	0.960	0.850	0.895	0
Heathcote	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.9	0.970	0.870	0.921	0
Korong Vale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kyneton	weekly	52	0.9	1.000	0.690	0.880	0
Laanecoorie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.9	1.000	0.800	0.917	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.9	0.980	0.840	0.898	0
Malmsbury	weekly	52	0.9	0.970	0.750	0.879	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.9	0.970	0.860	0.890	0
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	monthly	12	0.9	0.990	0.880	0.933	0
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.9	0.990	0.850	0.932	0
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsay	monthly	12	0.9	0.980	0.870	0.915	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.9	0.930	0.850	0.898	0
Tarnagulla	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	weekly	52	0.9	0.990	0.680	0.884	0
Wedderburn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note:

1 Echuca fluoride system was shut down on 8 September 2023. A new fluoride system currently being designed

Arsenic – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 32: Arsenic results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.01 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0

Cadmium – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 33: Cadmium results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.002 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.0002	<0.0002	0

Chlorine – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 34: Chlorine results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	weekly	52	0.94	0.35	0
Bealiba	weekly	53	2.10	1.41	0
Bendigo (Northern)	weekly	136	2.20	0.98	0
Bendigo (Southern)	weekly	147	2.20	1.26	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	weekly	76	2.18	1.28	0
Big Hill	weekly	52	2.10	0.84	0
Boort	weekly	52	2.80	1.08	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	weekly	53	2.80	1.72	0
Castlemaine	weekly	76	2.20	1.64	0
Cohuna	weekly	53	2.70	1.75	0
Dunolly	weekly	53	2.20	1.81	0
Echuca	weekly	88	1.90	1.32	0
Elmore ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	weekly	76	2.00	0.94	0
Fryerstown	weekly	52	1.30	0.62	0
Goornong	weekly	52	2.50	1.16	0
Guildford	weekly	52	1.40	0.88	0
Gunbower	weekly	53	2.80	1.62	0
Harcourt ²	weekly	51	2.10	1.11	0
Heathcote	weekly	52	2.20	1.68	0
Junortoun	weekly	52	1.80	0.53	0
Korong Vale	weekly	52	2.50	1.85	0
Kyneton	weekly	64	2.50	1.70	0
Laanecoorie	weekly	53	2.40	1.63	0
Leitchville	weekly	53	2.10	1.53	0
Lockington	weekly	52	2.70	1.52	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	weekly	64	2.00	1.04	0
Maldon	weekly	52	1.40	0.87	0
Malmsbury	weekly	52	1.60	1.11	0
Newstead	weekly	52	2.00	1.19	0
Pyramid Hill	weekly	53	1.90	1.22	0
Raywood	weekly	52	1.80	0.96	0
Rochester	weekly	52	1.90	1.40	0
Sebastian	weekly	52	2.00	0.43	0
Serpentine	weekly	52	2.20	1.41	0
Strathfieldsaye	weekly	64	2.20	1.26	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	weekly	52	2.10	1.28	0
Tarnagulla	weekly	53	2.20	1.67	0
Tooborac	weekly	52	2.30	1.05	0
Trentham	weekly	52	1.70	1.12	0
Tylden	weekly	52	2.30	1.56	0
Wedderburn	weekly	52	2.00	1.37	0

Areas with populations greater than 5,000 have additional sampling to the one sample per week (one additional sample per month for each 5,000 above 5,000 population in accordance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011).

Note:

- 1 Chlorine is not used for disinfection at Elmore.
- 2 During the Harcourt 'Do not Drink' (Bush fire event), sampling was undertaken as part of the incident. These samples are recorded as non-routine and not captured in this data set

Chromium – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 35: Chromium results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.05 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	0.001	0.001	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0

Cyanide – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 36: Cyanide results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.08 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.005	<0.005	0

Mercury – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 37: Mercury results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.001 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	0.00020	0.00009	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.0001	<0.0001	0

Nitrate – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 38: Nitrate results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 50 mg/L as nitrate, which equates to 11.2 N mg /L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (N mg/L)	Average (N mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale ²	quarterly	4	0.8	0.7	0
Bealiba ¹	fortnightly	30	0.4	0.2	0
Bendigo (Northern) ¹	fortnightly	30	1.0	0.3	0
Bendigo (Southern) ¹	fortnightly	29	0.6	0.3	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully) ¹	fortnightly	28	1.6	0.4	0
Big Hill ¹	fortnightly	28	0.8	0.4	0
Boort ²	quarterly	4	0.1	0.0	0
Bridgewater-Inglewood ¹	fortnightly	29	0.1	0.1	0
Castlemaine ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Cohuna ²	quarterly	4	0.1	0.0	0
Dunolly ¹	fortnightly	27	0.3	0.2	0
Echuca ²	quarterly	4	0.1	0.0	0
Elmore ²	quarterly	4	1.6	1.5	0
Epsom - Huntly ¹	fortnightly	28	0.5	0.3	0
Fryerstown ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Goornong ²	quarterly	4	0.1	0.1	0
Guildford ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Gunbower ²	quarterly	4	0.1	0.0	0
Harcourt ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Heathcote ¹	fortnightly	28	0.3	0.2	0
Junortoun ¹	fortnightly	27	1.0	0.4	0
Korong Vale ¹	fortnightly	28	0.3	0.2	0
Kyneton ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Laanecoorie ¹	fortnightly	29	0.3	0.2	0
Leitchville ²	quarterly	4	0.0	0.0	0
Lockington ²	Quarterly	4	0.1	0.1	0
Maiden Gully - Marong ¹	fortnightly	29	0.8	0.4	0
Maldon ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Malmsbury ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Newstead ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Pyramid Hill ²	quarterly	4	0.0	0.0	0
Raywood ²	quarterly	4	1.2	0.9	0
Rochester ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Sebastian ²	quarterly	4	0.8	0.7	0
Serpentine ²	quarterly	4	0.3	0.1	0
Strathfieldsaye ¹	fortnightly	30	0.5	0.3	0
Taradale - Elphinstone ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Tarnagulla ¹	fortnightly	27	0.2	0.2	0
Tooborac ²	quarterly	4	0.3	0.2	0
Trentham ²	quarterly	4	2.5	0.8	0
Tylden ²	quarterly	4	0.2	0.1	0
Wedderburn ¹	fortnightly	28	0.3	0.2	0

Note:

- 1 Chloraminated systems are sampled fortnightly, to assist in monitoring for nitrification.
- 2 Chlorinated systems are sampled quarterly.

Selenium – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 39: Selenium results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard - ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.004 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Boort	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	<0.001	<0.001	0

Sulphate – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 40: Sulphate results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value 500 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	12	11	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	14	12	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	12	10	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	11	10	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	11	10	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	12	10	0
Boort	quarterly	4	44	42	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	7	5	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	6	5	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	31	26	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	17	13	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	26	24	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	10	10	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	11	11	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	5	5	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	73	70	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	5	5	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	4	3	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	6	5	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	64	62	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	11	10	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	14	13	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	3	3	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	14	12	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	22	18	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	3	3	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	12	10	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	5	5	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	3	3	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	5	5	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	33.	31	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	12	11	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	30	28	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	11	10	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	20	19	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	12	10	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	6	5	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	16	13	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	65	62	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	<1	<1	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	3	3	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	16	13	0

Manganese – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 41: Manganese results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard - ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.1 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.005	0.001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.005	0.003	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.021	0.003	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	0.009	0.002	0
Echuca	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.004	0.002	0
Goornong	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Guildford	monthly	13	0.002	0.001	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.004	0.001	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.004	0.002	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.014	0.002	0
Kyneton	monthly	13	0.004	0.001	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	13	0.013	0.005	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.004	0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.003	0.002	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Raywood	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.001	0.001	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	0.007	0.002	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Trentham	monthly	12	0.003	0.001	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0

Copper – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 42: Copper results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 2.0 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.07	0.02	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Echuca	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Elmore	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.10	0.02	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.04	0.02	0
Goornong	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Guildford	monthly	13	0.02	0.01	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.08	0.03	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.02	0.00	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Kyneton	monthly	13	0.01	0.01	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	13	0.00	0.00	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.07	0.03	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.03	0.02	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.05	0.01	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.04	0.02	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Trentham	monthly	12	0.01	0.00	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.14	0.02	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0

Lead – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 43: Lead results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.005 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Boort	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Echuca	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.0010	0.0005	0
Goornong	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Guildford	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.0040	0.0008	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Lockington	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maldon	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.0010	0.0005	0
Newstead	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Raywood	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Rochester	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.0020	0.0007	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.0010	0.0005	0
Trentham	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tylden	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0

Nickel – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 44: Nickel results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.02 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Boort	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Echuca	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Goornong	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Guildford	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Lockington	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Maldon	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Newstead	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.00	0.00	0
Trentham	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Tylden	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0

Alpha Count – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 45: Alpha count results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.5 bq/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Value (bq/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	annual	1	<0.05	0
Bealiba	annual	1	<0.05	0
Bendigo (Northern)	annual	1	<0.05	0
Bendigo (Southern)	annual	1	<0.05	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	annual	1	<0.05	0
Big Hill	annual	1	<0.05	0
Boort	annual	1	<0.05	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	annual	1	0.06	0
Castlemaine	annual	1	<0.05	0
Cohuna	annual	1	<0.05	0
Dunolly	annual	1	<0.05	0
Echuca	annual	1	<0.05	0
Elmore	annual	1	0.07	0
Epsom - Huntly	annual	1	<0.05	0
Fryerstown	annual	1	<0.05	0
Goornong	annual	1	<0.05	0
Guildford	annual	1	<0.05	0
Gunbower	annual	1	<0.05	0
Harcourt	annual	1	<0.05	0
Heathcote	annual	1	<0.05	0
Junortoun	annual	1	<0.05	0
Korong Vale	annual	1	<0.05	0
Kyneton	annual	1	<0.05	0
Laanecoorie	annual	1	<0.05	0
Leitchville	annual	1	<0.05	0
Lockington	annual	1	<0.05	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	annual	1	<0.05	0
Maldon	annual	1	<0.05	0
Malmsbury	annual	1	<0.05	0
Newstead	annual	1	<0.05	0
Pyramid Hill	annual	1	<0.05	0
Raywood	annual	1	<0.05	0
Rochester	annual	1	<0.05	0
Sebastian	annual	1	<0.05	0
Serpentine	annual	1	<0.05	0
Strathfieldsaye	annual	1	<0.05	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	annual	1	<0.05	0
Tarnagulla	annual	1	<0.05	0
Tooborac	annual	1	<0.05	0
Trentham	annual	1	<0.05	0
Tylden	annual	1	<0.05	0
Wedderburn	annual	1	<0.05	0

Beta Count – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 46: Beta count results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.5 bq/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Value (bq/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	annual	1	0.14	0
Bealiba	annual	1	<0.10	0
Bendigo (Northern)	annual	1	<0.1	0
Bendigo (Southern)	annual	1	<0.1	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	annual	1	0.11	0
Big Hill	annual	1	<0.1	0
Boort	annual	1	0.10	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	annual	1	<0.10	0
Castlemaine	annual	1	<0.10	0
Cohuna	annual	1	<0.10	0
Dunolly	annual	1	0.11	0
Echuca	annual	1	<0.10	0
Elmore	annual	1	<0.10	0
Epsom - Huntly	annual	1	0.12	0
Fryerstown	annual	1	<0.10	0
Goornong	annual	1	<0.10	0
Guildford	annual	1	<0.10	0
Gunbower	annual	1	<0.10	0
Harcourt	annual	1	<0.10	0
Heathcote	annual	1	0.18	0
Junortoun	annual	1	<0.10	0
Korong Vale	annual	1	<0.10	0
Kyneton	annual	1	<0.1	0
Laanecoorie	annual	1	<0.10	0
Leitchville	annual	1	<0.10	0
Lockington	annual	1	<0.10	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	annual	1	<0.10	0
Maldon	annual	1	<0.10	0
Malmsbury	annual	1	<0.10	0
Newstead	annual	1	<0.10	0
Pyramid Hill	annual	1	<0.10	0
Raywood	annual	1	0.13	0
Rochester	annual	1	<0.10	0
Sebastian	annual	1	0.17	0
Serpentine	annual	1	<0.1	0
Strathfieldsaye	annual	1	<0.10	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	annual	1	<0.10	0
Tarnagulla	annual	1	0.10	0
Tooborac	annual	1	0.17	0
Trentham	annual	1	<0.1	0
Tylden	annual	1	<0.1	0
Wedderburn	annual	1	<0.10	0

Nitrite – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 47: Nitrite results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 3.0 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	fortnightly	27	0.42	0.07	0
Bendigo (Northern)	fortnightly	26	0.44	0.12	0
Bendigo (Southern)	fortnightly	26	0.41	0.06	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	fortnightly	26	0.49	0.09	0
Big Hill	fortnightly	26	0.29	0.07	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	fortnightly	26	0.02	0.01	0
Castlemaine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	fortnightly	26	0.04	0.02	0
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	fortnightly	26	0.52	0.17	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heathcote	fortnightly	26	0.02	0.01	0
Junortoun	fortnightly	26	0.50	0.19	0
Korong Vale	fortnightly	26	0.03	0.01	0
Kyneton	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Laanecoorie	fortnightly	26	0.03	0.01	0
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	fortnightly	27	0.41	0.11	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	fortnightly	26	0.28	0.07	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	fortnightly	26	0.03	0.02	0
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	fortnightly	26	0.34	0.06	0

NDMA – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 48: NDMA results for customer tap sites (Water quality standard – ADWG health-based guideline value: 0.1 ug/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (ug/L)	Average (ug/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	0.0040	0.0021	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	0.0130	0.0095	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater – Inglewood	quarterly	4	0.0610	0.0223	0
Castlemaine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	quarterly	4	0.0100	0.0073	0
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom – Huntly	quarterly	4	0.0160	0.0051	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heathcote	quarterly	4	0.0070	0.0035	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	0.0050	0.0024	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	0.0030	0.0019	0
Kyneton	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	0.0120	0.0088	0
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully – Marong	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	quarterly	4	<0.003	<0.003	0
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	0.0040	0.0021	0
Taradale – Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	0.0120	0.0080	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	0.0070	0.0060	0
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	0.0040	0.0035	0

Note:

- 1 Areas where chloramination is not part of the treatment process have not had NDMA included in their monitoring program.

pH – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 49: pH results for customer tap sites (operating range: 6.5 – 8.5 pH Units)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Minimum	Maximum
Axedale	monthly	12	7.8	8.2
Bealiba ¹	monthly	12	7.9	9.5
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	7.6	8.0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	7.7	8.1
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	7.6	8.2
Big Hill	monthly	12	7.7	8.1
Boort	monthly	12	7.4	7.9
Bridgewater - Inglewood ¹	monthly	12	7.2	8.9
Castlemaine	monthly	12	7.2	7.8
Cohuna ¹	monthly	12	7.0	8.6
Dunolly ¹	monthly	12	8.0	9.7
Echuca	monthly	12	7.1	8.0
Elmore	monthly	12	7.8	8.4
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	7.6	8.2
Fryerstown	monthly	12	7.3	8.0
Goornong	monthly	12	7.1	8.5
Guildford	monthly	13	7.4	7.8
Gunbower	monthly	12	7.3	7.8
Harcourt	monthly	12	7.4	8.0
Heathcote	monthly	12	7.7	8.3
Junortoun	monthly	12	7.6	8.2
Korong Vale ¹	monthly	12	7.3	9.8
Kyneton	monthly	13	7.3	8.1
Laanecoorie ¹	monthly	13	7.4	9.0
Leitchville ¹	monthly	12	7.2	8.7
Lockington	monthly	12	7.1	8.5
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	7.5	8.1
Maldon	monthly	12	7.5	8.0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	7.5	8.0
Newstead	monthly	12	7.5	8.0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	7.1	7.7
Raywood	monthly	12	7.5	8.0
Rochester ¹	monthly	12	7.0	8.7
Sebastian	monthly	12	7.5	8.4
Serpentine ¹	monthly	12	6.9	8.8
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	7.6	8.0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	7.4	8.1
Tarnagulla ¹	monthly	12	7.7	9.8
Tooborac ¹	monthly	12	7.7	9.3
Trentham	monthly	12	7.5	8.4
Tylden	monthly	12	7.3	7.8
Wedderburn ¹	monthly	12	7.6	9.5

Note:

1 Refer to section 4.3.1.1 for details on exceedances.

Aluminium – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 50: Aluminium (soluble) results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline value: 0.2 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where standard was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	0.03	0.03	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	0.05	0.03	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Boort	quarterly	4	0.05	0.03	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	0.05	0.04	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	0.02	0.01	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	0.06	0.04	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	0.06	0.04	0
Elmore ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	0.04	0.03	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	0.08	0.06	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	0.09	0.06	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	0.03	0.02	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	0.04	0.03	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	0.03	0.02	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	0.03	0.03	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	0.02	0.01	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	0.15	0.09	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	0.04	0.03	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	0.03	0.03	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	0.03	0.02	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	0.04	0.03	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	<0.01	<0.01	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	0.04	0.03	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	0.01	0.01	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	0.03	0.03	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	0.02	0.01	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	0.02	0.02	0
Trentham ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	quarterly	4	0.03	0.02	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	0.03	0.03	0

Note:

- 1 An aluminium based product is not used for coagulation at Elmore or Trentham, and therefore aluminium is not deemed to be a significant risk in this water supply.

Hardness – Customer tap sites 2025/26

To minimise undesirable build-up of scale in hot water systems, total hardness (as calcium carbonate) in drinking water should not exceed 200 mg/L.

Table 51: Hardness results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 200mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	150	130	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	25	24	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	130	120	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	130	123	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	150	128	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	130	125	0
Boort	quarterly	4	140	101	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	21	17	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	85	74	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	24	20	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	27	25	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	20	17	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	130	128	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	130	125	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	87	80	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	130	120	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	75	72	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	24	21	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	79	74	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	120	112	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	150	128	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	14	13	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	84	70	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	21	18	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	20	18	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	27	26	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	130	130	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	77	74	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	72	66	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	76	73	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	42	37	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	140	130	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	26	23	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	130	125	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	87	44	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	140	123	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	77	74	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	23	22	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	140	120	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	85	65	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	87	68	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	20	17	0

Iron – Customer tap sites 2025/26

The samples taken for analysis were obtained from the reticulation system. Iron levels may be higher at customers' internal taps, where galvanised iron pipes have been used in customers' plumbing.

Table 52: Iron results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 0.3 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.03	0.02	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.02	0.02	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.05	0.02	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.03	0.02	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Echuca	monthly	12	0.01	0.01	0
Elmore	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.05	0.03	0
Goornong	monthly	12	0.05	0.01	0
Guildford	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.88	0.10	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	0.13	0.06	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Lockington	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.05	0.02	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.02	0.01	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.04	0.01	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	0.05	0.01	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.06	0.02	0
Trentham	monthly	12	<0.01	<0.01	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.03	0.01	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	0.06	0.03	0

True Colour – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Based on aesthetic considerations, true colour in drinking water should not exceed 15 HU.

Table 53: True Colour results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 15 HU)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples ¹	Maximum (HU)	Average (HU)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	4	2	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	2	2	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	4	2	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	4	2	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	4	2	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	4	2	0
Boort	monthly	12	2	1	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	2	1	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	2	1	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	2	2	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	2	1	0
Echuca	monthly	12	2	1	0
Elmore	monthly	12	2	1	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	2	2	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	4	2	0
Goornong	monthly	12	2	1	0
Guildford	monthly	12	2	1	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	2	2	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	2	2	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	4	2	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	4	2	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	4	2	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	2	1	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	4	2	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	2	1	0
Lockington	monthly	12	2	1	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	4	2	0
Maldon	monthly	12	2	1	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	2	2	0
Newstead	monthly	12	2	2	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	2	1	0
Raywood	monthly	12	4	2	0
Rochester	monthly	12	2	1	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	2	2	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	2	2	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	4	2	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	2	2	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	6	2	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	4	2	0
Trentham	monthly	12	2	1	0
Tylden	monthly	12	2	1	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	2	2	0

Electrical Conductivity – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Based on taste, total dissolved solids in drinking water should not exceed 600 mg/L, equivalent to approximately 1,200 µS/cm in electrical conductivity.

Table 54: Electrical Conductivity results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 1,200 µS/cm)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (µS/cm)	Average (µS/cm)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	610	557	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	150	143	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	600	546	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	600	542	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	610	546	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	600	544	0
Boort	monthly	12	580	472	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	130	113	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	280	256	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	170	130	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	160	145	0
Echuca	monthly	12	140	120	0
Elmore	monthly	12	780	759	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	610	537	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	280	263	0
Goornong	monthly	12	670	568	0
Guildford	monthly	12	290	264	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	110	91	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	280	262	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	660	599	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	600	547	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	140	121	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	250	223	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	260	138	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	120	110	0
Lockington	monthly	12	130	114	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	600	518	0
Maldon	monthly	12	290	270	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	510	243	0
Newstead	monthly	12	280	258	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	190	178	0
Raywood	monthly	12	620	564	0
Rochester	monthly	12	150	142	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	620	545	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	310	163	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	590	543	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	510	279	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	150	142	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	690	621	0
Trentham	monthly	12	220	178	0
Tylden	monthly	12	240	227	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	140	126	0

Sodium – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Based on aesthetic considerations (taste), the concentration of sodium in drinking water should not exceed 180 mg/L.

Table 55: Sodium results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 180mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of Samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	62	50	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	16	14	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	46	43	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	46	44	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	61	49	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	46	44	0
Boort	quarterly	4	64	47	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	13	12	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	23	20	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	20	15	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	16	15	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	15	15	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	100	98	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	47	44	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	24	21	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	63	59	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	20	19	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	10	8	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	20	19	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	71	62	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	55	46	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	15	14	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	20	17	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	16	14	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	15	12	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	11	9	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	50	44	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	21	19	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	17	16	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	22	20	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	17	17	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	54	52	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	22	18	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	53	49	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	38	20	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	53	45	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	20	19	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	14	14	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	79	70	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	17	13	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	20	17	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	16	14	0

Chloride – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Based on aesthetic consideration, the chloride concentration in drinking water should not exceed 250 mg/L.

Table 56: Chloride results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 250mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	quarterly	4	130	120	0
Bealiba	quarterly	4	23	23	0
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	120	113	0
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	120	115	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	120	113	0
Big Hill	quarterly	4	120	115	0
Boort	quarterly	4	120	92	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	27	24	0
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	45	41	0
Cohuna	quarterly	4	21	13	0
Dunolly	quarterly	4	27	25	0
Echuca	quarterly	4	8	7	0
Elmore	quarterly	4	150	143	0
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	120	104	0
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	46	42	0
Goornong	quarterly	4	140	130	0
Guildford	quarterly	4	43	40	0
Gunbower	quarterly	4	15	12	0
Harcourt	quarterly	4	44	43	0
Heathcote	quarterly	4	130	123	0
Junortoun	quarterly	4	120	112	0
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	24	22	0
Kyneton	quarterly	4	34	33	0
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	26	23	0
Leitchville	quarterly	4	13	10	0
Lockington	quarterly	4	18	16	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	120	113	0
Maldon	quarterly	4	46	43	0
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	41	35	0
Newstead	quarterly	4	44	42	0
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	22	21	0
Raywood	quarterly	4	120	113	0
Rochester	quarterly	4	12	11	0
Sebastian	quarterly	4	130	115	0
Serpentine	quarterly	4	58	27	0
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	120	113	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	51	46	0
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	25	23	0
Tooborac	quarterly	4	140	130	0
Trentham	quarterly	4	18	17	0
Tylden	quarterly	4	34	33	0
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	26	23	0

Zinc – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Based on aesthetic consideration (taste), the concentration of zinc in drinking water should not exceed 3 mg/L.

Table 57: Zinc results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 3 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	monthly	12	0.003	0.002	0
Bealiba	monthly	12	0.031	0.004	0
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	0.007	0.002	0
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Big Hill	monthly	12	0.007	0.004	0
Boort	monthly	12	0.004	0.003	0
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Castlemaine	monthly	12	0.024	0.005	0
Cohuna	monthly	12	0.014	0.004	0
Dunolly	monthly	12	0.004	0.002	0
Echuca	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Elmore	monthly	12	0.009	0.002	0
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	0.003	0.001	0
Fryerstown	monthly	12	0.016	0.008	0
Goornong	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Guildford	monthly	12	0.009	0.004	0
Gunbower	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Harcourt	monthly	12	0.004	0.002	0
Heathcote	monthly	12	0.004	0.001	0
Junortoun	monthly	12	0.009	0.002	0
Korong Vale	monthly	12	0.006	0.001	0
Kyneton	monthly	12	0.007	0.003	0
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	0.006	0.004	0
Leitchville	monthly	12	0.012	0.007	0
Lockington	monthly	12	<0.001	<0.001	0
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Maldon	monthly	12	0.005	0.002	0
Malmsbury	monthly	12	0.024	0.008	0
Newstead	monthly	12	0.003	0.002	0
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	0.006	0.004	0
Raywood	monthly	12	0.004	0.002	0
Rochester	monthly	12	0.006	0.003	0
Sebastian	monthly	12	0.010	0.005	0
Serpentine	monthly	12	0.006	0.004	0
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	0.004	0.001	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	0.014	0.006	0
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	0.002	0.001	0
Tooborac	monthly	12	0.012	0.003	0
Trentham	monthly	12	0.011	0.002	0
Tylden	monthly	12	0.005	0.003	0
Wedderburn	monthly	12	0.006	0.002	0

Ammonia – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 58: Ammonia results for customer tap sites (ADWG aesthetic guideline limit: 0.5 mg/L)

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Number of samples where guideline was not met
Axedale	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bealiba	fortnightly	27	0.400	0.235	0
Bendigo (Northern)	fortnightly	26	0.330	0.160	0
Bendigo (Southern)	fortnightly	26	0.350	0.150	0
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	fortnightly	26	0.390	0.178	0
Big Hill	fortnightly	26	0.250	0.073	0
Boort	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bridgewater - Inglewood	fortnightly	26	0.230	0.093	0
Castlemaine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cohuna	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dunolly	fortnightly	26	0.300	0.170	0
Echuca	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmore	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Epsom - Huntly	fortnightly	26	0.280	0.117	0
Fryerstown	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Goornong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Guildford	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gunbower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Harcourt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heathcote	fortnightly	26	0.260	0.120	0
Junortoun	fortnightly	26	0.330	0.098	0
Korong Vale	fortnightly	26	0.100	0.053	0
Kyneton	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Laanecoorie	fortnightly	26	0.320	0.167	0
Leitchville	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lockington	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maiden Gully - Marong	fortnightly	27	0.320	0.150	0
Maldon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malmsbury	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Newstead	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pyramid Hill	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Raywood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rochester	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sebastian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serpentine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Strathfieldsaye	fortnightly	26	0.320	0.174	0
Taradale - Elphinstone	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tarnagulla	fortnightly	26	0.430	0.188	0
Tooborac	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trentham	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tylden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wedderburn	fortnightly	26	0.110	0.068	0

Alkalinity – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 59: Alkalinity results for customer tap sites - whilst there is no ADWG guideline value for alkalinity it is monitored for operational purposes.

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of Samples	Maximum (mg CaCO ₃ / L)	Average (mg CaCO ₃ / L)
Axedale	quarterly	4	100	94
Bealiba	quarterly	4	24	20
Bendigo (Northern)	quarterly	4	100	93
Bendigo (Southern)	quarterly	4	100	92
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	quarterly	4	100	93
Big Hill	quarterly	4	100	94
Boort	quarterly	4	64	51
Bridgewater - Inglewood	quarterly	4	19	14
Castlemaine	quarterly	4	59	55
Cohuna	quarterly	4	17	16
Dunolly	quarterly	4	24	21
Echuca	quarterly	4	19	17
Elmore	quarterly	4	170	165
Epsom - Huntly	quarterly	4	99	93
Fryerstown	quarterly	4	60	57
Goornong	quarterly	4	62	51
Guildford	quarterly	4	61	58
Gunbower	quarterly	4	28	26
Harcourt	quarterly	4	60	58
Heathcote	quarterly	4	64	52
Junortoun	quarterly	4	100	92
Korong Vale	quarterly	4	13	12
Kyneton	quarterly	4	59	56
Laanecoorie	quarterly	4	17	14
Leitchville	quarterly	4	19	17
Lockington	quarterly	4	31	29
Maiden Gully - Marong	quarterly	4	100	94
Maldon	quarterly	4	62	59
Malmsbury	quarterly	4	58	56
Newstead	quarterly	4	60	57
Pyramid Hill	quarterly	4	33	24
Raywood	quarterly	4	100	93
Rochester	quarterly	4	23	21
Sebastian	quarterly	4	100	93
Serpentine	quarterly	4	52	36
Strathfieldsaye	quarterly	4	100	93
Taradale - Elphinstone	quarterly	4	60	59
Tarnagulla	quarterly	4	21	19
Tooborac	quarterly	4	69	55
Trentham	quarterly	4	77	67
Tylden	quarterly	4	57	55
Wedderburn	quarterly	4	16	14

Apparent Colour – Customer tap sites 2025/26

Table 60: Apparent colour results for customer tap sites -whilst there is no ADWG guideline value for apparent colour it is monitored for operational purposes.

Water sampling area	Sampling frequency	Number of samples	Maximum (HU)	Average (HU)
Axedale	monthly	12	4	2
Bealiba	monthly	12	4	2
Bendigo (Northern)	monthly	12	6	2
Bendigo (Southern)	monthly	12	6	2
Bendigo (Spring Gully)	monthly	12	6	2
Big Hill	monthly	12	6	2
Boort	monthly	12	4	2
Bridgewater - Inglewood	monthly	12	4	1
Castlemaine	monthly	12	4	2
Cohuna	monthly	12	6	2
Dunolly	monthly	12	4	2
Echuca	monthly	12	2	1
Elmore	monthly	12	1	1
Epsom - Huntly	monthly	12	4	2
Fryerstown	monthly	12	4	2
Goornong	monthly	12	4	2
Guildford	monthly	12	4	2
Gunbower	monthly	12	2	1
Harcourt	monthly	12	4	1
Heathcote	monthly	12	4	2
Junortoun	monthly	12	4	2
Korong Vale	monthly	12	4	2
Kyneton	monthly	12	2	1
Laanecoorie	monthly	12	12	4
Leitchville	monthly	12	4	2
Lockington	monthly	12	4	2
Maiden Gully - Marong	monthly	12	4	2
Maldon	monthly	12	2	1
Malmsbury	monthly	12	4	2
Newstead	monthly	12	4	2
Pyramid Hill	monthly	12	4	1
Raywood	monthly	12	4	2
Rochester	monthly	12	4	1
Sebastian	monthly	12	4	2
Serpentine	monthly	12	4	2
Strathfieldsaye	monthly	12	4	2
Taradale - Elphinstone	monthly	12	4	2
Tarnagulla	monthly	12	4	2
Tooborac	monthly	12	6	2
Trentham	monthly	12	2	1
Tylden	monthly	12	4	1
Wedderburn	monthly	12	6	3

5 Complaints relating to water quality

5.1 Complaints and responses

Customer queries/complaints relating to drinking water quality are recorded and followed up using a Customer Response Management (CRM) system. Generally, water quality queries are managed at the time of the enquiry, while complaints are forwarded to our Land, Water & Environment team, or Service Stream (our operational partner managing the water distribution network), depending on the type of complaint. The complaint is reviewed and actioned as appropriate.

Some of the actions that can be initiated are:

- Flushing of the main supplying the customer and or flushing of the customer's meter.
- Advisory phone call from Water Quality specialist to the customer.
- A visit to the property or written response by a Land, Water & Environment team member.

Table 61 summarises the water quality complaints we received in each category as recorded in CRM system between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026 and compared to the previous two years.

Complaints recorded fall into five categories, "Alleged illness", "Discoloured Water", "Taste/Odour", "Air in Water", and "Other".

Table 61: Complaints related to Water Quality by Classification

Types of complaints	Number of complaints			Comparison with previous reporting periods	Comments
	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24		
Alleged illness	9	15	13	A decrease from the previous two years.	The complaints reported occurred randomly over the course of the 12-month period and were distributed widely across the service delivery area.
Discoloured water	110	188	104	A decrease from previous year and is comparable to the 2023/24 report year.	Most complaints received were from the water sampling areas in the Bendigo region.
Taste or odour	56	65	81	A decrease from the previous two years.	A further decrease in the number of complaints overall reflects Coliban Water's ongoing commitment to implement taste and odour mitigation measures, such as, powdered activated carbon (PAC) dosing at WTP sites.
Air in water	16	28	12	A decrease from the previous year. Most of the complaints were received from water sampling areas in the Bendigo region.	Coliban Water responds to air in water customer complaints by flushing the supply main in the vicinity of the complainant's property.
Other	0	0	0	Consistent with previous years with zero complaints received in this category	
Total	191	296	210		

Table 62: Complaints related to water quality by water sampling area 2025/26.

Water sampling area	Types of complaints					Total complaints
	Alleged illness	Discoloured water	Taste or odour	Air in water	Other	
Axedale	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bealiba	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bendigo Northern	0	10	8	3	0	21
Bendigo Southern	1	21	6	2	0	30
Bendigo Spring Gully	1	5	1	3	0	10
Big Hill	0	1	0	0	0	1
Boort	0	0	1	0	0	1
Bridgewater-Inglewood	1	1	2	0	0	4
Castlemaine	0	3	4	1	0	8
Cohuna	2	3	0	0	0	5
Dunolly	0	1	0	0	0	1
Echuca	0	9	3	0	0	12
Elmore	0	1	2	0	0	3
Epsom / Huntly	0	7	1	3	0	11
Fryerstown	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goornong	0	0	5	0	0	5
Guildford	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gunbower	0	0	1	0	0	1
Harcourt	0	1	3	1	0	5
Heathcote	0	5	0	0	0	5
Junortoun	0	3	1	0	0	4
Korong Vale	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kyneton	1	3	4	0	0	8
Laanecoorie	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leitchville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lockington	0	0	1	0	0	1
Maiden Gully / Marong	2	7	7	0	0	16
Maldon	0	10	1	1	0	12
Malmsbury	0	3	0	1	0	4
Newstead	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pyramid Hill	0	0	1	0	0	1
Raywood	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rochester	0	3	2	0	0	5
Sebastian	0	1	0	1	0	2
Serpentine	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strathfieldsaye	0	0	1	0	0	1
Taradale-Elphinstone	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tarnagulla	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tooborac	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trentham	1	0	1	0	0	2
Tylden	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wedderburn	0	11	0	0	0	11
Total Complaints	9	110	56	16	0	191

6 Risk Management Plan Audit Results

6.1 Drinking Water Quality Risk Management regulatory audit

The most recent regulatory audit, as required by the DH Secretary, was carried out between 7 to 9 March 2023, for the audit period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2022. Our DWQRMP was found to have not complied with the obligations imposed by Section 7(1) of the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2003*. The two minor non-compliant findings and opportunities for improvement were managed via an action plan. All actions were finalised and advised in the SDWA Annual Report 2024-25.

7 Regulated Water

Regulated water is water that is not intended for use as drinking water, but which could be reasonably mistaken for drinking water. Regulated water is non-potable, not suitable for human consumption and generally does not receive any form of treatment. The Minister for Health may declare a water supply as a regulated water supply under Section 6 of the Act. On 2 January 2006, the Minister for Health declared the following water supply systems as regulated water supplies: Borung, Dingee, Jarklin, Macorna, Mitiamo, Mysia and Wychitella

We currently:

- Verify signage is located at publicly accessible water supply points (e.g. toilet blocks) advising that the water supply is not suitable for drinking purposes, and this is done on an annual basis.
- Notify customers on a regular basis that the water is not for drinking and household use with a Do Not Drink (DnD) symbol on their quarterly accounts.
- Our website has information about each town and advises when water is non-potable.

Table 63: Regulated Water Systems in 2025/26

Area where regulated water is supplied	Source water	Date of publication of gazette notice	Estimated population supplied with regulated water
Borung	GWMW pipeline	19 January 2006	50
Dingee	GMW channel	19 January 2006	60
Jarklin	GMW pipeline	19 January 2006	20
Macorna	GMW channel	19 January 2006	20
Mitiamo	GMW pipeline	19 January 2006	90
Mysia	GMW pipeline	19 January 2006	20
Wychitella	GWMW pipeline	19 January 2006	30

8 Further Information

Section 23 of the Act requires us to make available for inspection by the public the results of any water quality monitoring program we've carried out, on any drinking water we have supplied. Customers and members of the public may access drinking water quality data by contacting us on the details provided below:

Telephone: 1300 363 200

Website: www.coliban.com.au

A list of glossary and terms is attached in Appendix A.

Appendix A – Glossary of Terms

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011) (ADWG)

A publication by National Health and Medical Research Council that details a framework for the management of drinking water supply systems and provides information on a range of potential contaminants of water systems.

BAC Filtration

Biological activated carbon filtration is a unit process, similar to GAC filtration, which has the additional capability of removing dissolved organics by microorganisms that develop on the surface of the carbon granules.

Critical Control Point (CCP)

A point, step or procedure at which control can be applied and which is essential to prevent or eliminate a hazard or reduce it to an acceptable level.

Chloramination

The addition of chlorine compounds (e.g. chlorine gas and sodium hypochlorite) to aid the breakdown of organic matters and the inactivation harmful microorganisms. This process is modified with the addition of ammonia to improve total chlorine residual in the distribution network.

Chlorination

The addition of chlorine compounds (e.g. chlorine gas and sodium hypochlorite) to aid the breakdown of organic matter and the inactivation harmful microorganisms.

Clarification

A unit operation where seeds of floc are allowed to grow and settle. Clarification is usually enhanced with the addition of polymer (e.g. polyelectrolyte) to increase the size of floc and increase their settling velocities.

Coagulation/flocculation

A unit process involves addition of positively charged coagulant (e.g. aluminium chlorohydrate or aluminium sulphate) and rapid mixing, causing coalescing of suspended particles, or seeds of flocs to form and settle out of suspension.

DEECA

Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action.

Dissolved Air Flotation & Filtration (DAFF)

A combination of dissolved air flotation and sand filtration. Dissolved air flotation is a unit operation where fine suspended particles and floc are removed by rising bubbles in the treatment vessel.

Desalination

A unit operation where virtually all dissolved substances and suspended materials are removed by reverse osmosis and only water molecules are allowed to pass through the membranes.

Dual-media filtration

A unit operation using both anthracite coal and sand to retain floc by both adhesion and physical sieving.

Drinking Water Quality Management System (DWQMS)

A term used interchangeably with Drinking Water Quality Risk Management Plan.

Drinking Water Quality Risk Management Plan (DWQMP)

A risk management plan relating to water supply is a document that:

- contains a detailed description of the water system.
- identifies the risks to the quality of the water and the risks posed by the quality of water.
- assess those risks.
- set out the steps required to manage those risks, including the development and implementation of preventative strategies.
- contains other matters as required by the Safe Drinking Water Regulations 2025

Fluoridation

The addition of fluorine compounds (e.g. Hydrofluorosilicic Acid) into drinking water to improve the dental health of consumers.

GAC Filtration

A unit operation where floc is removed by granular activated carbon (GAC) by adhesion. GAC is fabricated to have a high surface area and hence improved efficiency for adhesion.

GMW

Goulburn-Murray Water Corporation.

GWMW

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water Corporation.

Microfiltration/Ultrafiltration

A unit operation where fine suspended solid particles are retained by the pores of a filter membrane.

MIEX

Magnetic Ions Exchange is a unit operation where organic matter is attracted to, and removed by a MIEX resin. MIEX reduces the requirements for chemical dosage during the coagulation process, improves the efficiency of disinfection and improves the aesthetic properties of drinking water.

Minor Non-Conformance

A minor non-conformance is defined as a non-compliance with one or more auditable elements, legislative requirements or risk management activities where the potential impact of the non-conformance is not likely to be a serious or imminent risk to public health.

MoU

Memorandum of Understanding.

Opportunity for Improvement (OFI)

A conforming or non-conforming clause of the RMP or DWQMS system that does not contravene a legislative requirement. It is not itself a non-conformance. It may include opportunities for improvement, comments that may be relevant to the next audit or against best practice considerations, or incidental or isolated discrepancies.

Ozonation

A unit process that uses ozone to aid the breakdown of organic matter and the inactivation harmful microorganisms.

pH Correction

The adjustment of the pH of drinking water to get it into the recommended range, by the addition of carbon dioxide, sulphuric acid, lime, soda ash or caustic soda.

Sand Filtration

A unit operation where suspended solid particles are retained by the pores of a filter media (in this case, sand).

Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)

A SCADA system consists of human-machine interface, computerised logics, telemetry communication system, electronically actuated instruments and sensors. SCADA allows remote control and monitor of all key process parameters.

UV Disinfection

A unit operation where ultra violet light is impinged onto drinking water to inactive harmful microorganisms.

Plant (sometimes described as 'our plant' or 'treatment plant')

A facility where raw water is directed through various treatment processes and produces treated water fit for human consumption.

Appendix B – List of raw water organic (fungicides/herbicides/insecticides) parameters

The following table is a comprehensive list of the organic parameters that are tested for in the raw water.

Fungicides	Herbicides	Insecticides
Azoxystrobin	2,4 D Acid	1, 3-dichloropropene
Boscalid	2,4 D B	Alpha cypermethrin
Captan	Atrazine	Azinphos-methyl
Carbendazim	Diquat	Bendiocarb
Chlorothalonil	Diuron	Bifenthrin
Cyprodinil	Glyphosate	Carbaryl
Difenoconazole	Hexazinone	Chlorantraniliprole
Iprodione	MCPA	Chloropicrin
Mancozeb	Metribuzin	Chlorpyrifos
Metalaxyl-M	Metsulfuron methyl	Cypermethrin
Myclobutanil	Molinate	Cyromazine
Penconazole	Paraquat dichloride	Deltamethrin
Prochloraz	Pendimethalin	Dichlorvos
Pyraclostrobin	Prometryn	Dimethoate
Pyrimethanil	Simazine	Esfenvalerate
Tebuconazole	Triclopyr	Imidacloprid
Thiram	Tebuthiuron	Lambda-cyhalothrin
Trifloxystrobin	Thiobencarb	Malathion
Ziram	Trifluralin	Methomyl
	S-metolachlor	Omethoate
		Permethrin
		Phorate
		Pirimicarb
		Thiodicarb

Appendix C – List of treatment processes and added substances

Plant	Water sampling area		Treatment process												Added substances							
			Coagulation & flocculation	Clarification		Filtration		Disinfection and/or Oxidation					Other		Sludge thickening / dewatering	Lime / soda ash / caustic soda / carbon dioxide / sulphuric acid /	Aluminium-based coagulants	Iron-based coagulants	Polymers	Chlorine	Ammonia	Fluoride compound
				Sedimentation / clarification	Dissolved air floatation	Granular media filtration	Membrane filtration	Chlorine gas	Chlorine dioxide	Sodium hypochlorite	Calcium hypochlorite	Ultraviolet (UV)	Ozone	Activated Carbon (PAC/GAC/BAC)	Ion exchange	Reverse osmosis						
Bendigo	Axedale	x				x	x						x	x			x	x		x	x	x
	Bendigo Northern																					
	Bendigo Southern																					
	Bendigo Spring Gully																					
	Big Hill																					
	Epsom - Huntly																					
	Junortoun																					
	Maiden Gully - Marong																					
	Raywood																					
	Sebastian																					
	Strathfieldsaye																					
Boort	Boort	x	x			x		x						x				x	x			
Bridgewater	Bridgewater - Inglewood	x	x			x		x				x		x				x	x	x		
Castlemaine	Castlemaine	x				x	x					x	x	x			x	x	x		x	
	Fryerstown																					
	Guildford																					
	Harcourt																					
	Maldon																					
	Newstead																					

Plant	Water sampling area	Coagulation & flocculation	Treatment process													Added substances							
			Clarification		Filtration		Disinfection and/or Oxidation						Other			Sludge thickening / dewatering	Lime / soda ash / caustic soda / carbon dioxide / sulphuric acid /	Aluminium-based coagulants	Iron-based coagulants	Polymers	Chlorine	Ammonia	Fluoride compound
			Sedimentation / clarification	Dissolved air floatation	Granular media filtration	Membrane filtration	Chlorine gas	Chlorine dioxide	Sodium hypochlorite	Calcium hypochlorite	Ultraviolet (UV)	Ozone	Activated Carbon (PAC/GAC/BAC)	Ion exchange	Reverse osmosis								
	Taradale - Elphinstone																						
Cohuna	Cohuna	x	x		x		x		x				x				x	x		x	x		x
Echuca	Echuca	x	x		x		x		x		x		x				x	x		x	x		x ⁺
Elmore	Elmore										x						x						
Goornong	Goornong	x	x		x				x				x				x	x			x		
Gunbower	Gunbower	x	x			x				x	x		x	x ⁺			x	x			x		
Heathcote	Heathcote	x	x		x		x		x		x		x			x	x	x		x	x	x	
	Tooborac																						
Korong Vale	Korong Vale	x	x		x		x				x		x			x	x	x		x	x	x	
	Wedderburn																						
Kyneton	Kyneton	x				x	x				x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x		x
	Malmsbury																						
	Tylden																						
Laanecoorie	Bealiba	x	x		x		x		x		x		x				x	x		x	x	x	
	Dunolly																						
	Laanecoorie																						
	Tarnagulla																						
Leitchville	Leitchville	x	x			x	x				x		x				x	x		x	x		
Lockington	Lockington	x		x	x					x			x				x	x		x	x		
Pyramid Hill	Pyramid Hill	x	x		x		x						x			x	x	x		x	x		
Rochester	Rochester	x	x			x	x						x			x	x	x		x	x		
Serpentine	Serpentine	x	x		x		x									x	x	x		x	x		

Plant	Water sampling area		Treatment process													Added substances							
			Coagulation & flocculation	Clarification		Filtration		Disinfection and/or Oxidation					Other			Sludge thickening / dewatering	Lime / soda ash / caustic soda / carbon dioxide / sulphuric acid /	Aluminium-based coagulants	Iron-based coagulants	Polymers	Chlorine	Ammonia	Fluoride compound
				Sedimentation / clarification	Dissolved air floatation	Granular media filtration	Membrane filtration	Chlorine gas	Chlorine dioxide	Sodium hypochlorite	Calcium hypochlorite	Ultraviolet (UV)	Ozone	Activated Carbon (PAC/GAC/BAC)	Ion exchange								
Trentham	Trentham					X				X			X			X				X	X		

Note : 1 – Chemical is currently not being used as process is off-line.

