

Media Release

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Industry strongly supports water recycling initiative

The UDIA strongly supports the implementation of aquifer recharge using treated wastewater and stormwater and other water recycling initiatives.

“We’re running out of water, it’s as simple as that,” said UDIA CEO Debra Goostrey.

“We haven’t been thirsty enough in Perth to embrace new water options but we’re getting there now,” she said

“Dont be fooled that the water situation isn’t grim, the forecast rain this winter will do little more than wet the ground with very little flow in the catchment for dams.”

Ms Goostrey said a total sprinkler ban is on the cards for next summer.

Whilst the second desalination plant will be critical, water resilience in a drying climate is about having a range of water sources.

“Extraction from the Gngangara water mound is at sustainable limits but our water demands keep growing along with our population,” she said.

“New developments are far more water efficient but we’re now struggling to get bore water licenses to keep public open spaces green.

“It makes sense to top up the Gngangara water mound as part of a sustainable water strategy.”

Aquifer recharge takes water of drinking quality and injects it into the ground where it soaks down over 30 years into the Gngangara mound.

“The only problem with this is we should have started doing it 30 years ago,” Ms Goostrey said.

“The government has been very slow to embrace water recycling and we lag a long way behind the eastern states,” she concluded

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