

Ontap

Customer newsletter | January-March 2021



Engineering cadet Ashleigh Hayden (centre) discusses the Willans Hill reservoirs project with Riverina Water engineers Anjane Bichani (left) and James Dwerryhouse.

Developing the next generation of engineers

Riverina Water is proud to be a foundation industry partner of CSU's engineering program, with the organisation recently welcoming its second cadet engineer.

CSU student Ashleigh Hayden is gaining hands-on experience at Riverina Water while developing the skills she is learning through her study.

"I am currently collaborating with each of the Riverina Water engineers to gain experience in different areas, which range from project management to water

hydrology," Ms Hayden said. "My main focus so far has been about providing reservoirs for surrounding towns."

Director Engineering Bede Spannagle said the engineering cadet program provides value to both the cadet and Riverina Water.

"Ash gets hands-on experience working in a variety of areas and taking on responsibilities for projects as her skills and knowledge develop," Mr Spannagle said. "The engineering mentors providing Ash with guidance have commented that this mentoring experience is rewarding for them also, helping to develop their own skills as a leader within the organisation."

Five new positions offer on-the-job learning opportunities for youth

Riverina Water has made a significant investment in education and training.

The local government water utility has increased the amount of entry level positions with five new roles - an additional electrical apprentice, two maintenance operator traineeships, an IT trainee and a customer service traineeship.

The new positions were targeted at school leavers and attracted a high number of local applicants.

The new roles allow young people to get on-the-job

training and finish with a certificate or qualification relevant to the role.

Riverina Water Chairperson Councillor Greg Verdon said the Board was committed to creating opportunities for youth.

"By investing in the next generation, we ensure we have qualified and experienced staff into the future," Cllr Verdon said.

"As a significant employer in southern NSW, it is important we contribute to the development of a skilled regional workforce."

Water issues?

If you're experiencing issues with water supply or a water related emergency, please call us on **6922 0608** 24 hours a day, seven days a week





Crews have been working to install a new water main along Farrer Road as part of continuing improvements in the growing northern area of Wagga.



Riverina Water staff and contractors were thanked for their hard work in constructing the two new reservoirs at Willans Hill, Wagga (below).

No sprinklers from 10am to 5pm in daylight savings

Longer, warmer days mean we all need to do the right thing when it comes to water.

During daylight savings, Stage 1 water restrictions are in place. Under the rules, you must not use sprinklers or irrigations systems from 10am to 5pm each day. If you need to water during this time, you can use a handheld hose.

rwcc.nsw.gov.au/savewater

New reservoirs to provide drinking water to thousands of city's residents

Riverina Water has completed a \$4.2M project atop Wagga Wagga's Willans Hill with two new 11 megalitre reservoirs.



The reservoirs will provide quality drinking water to central Wagga for decades to come, replacing the nearby open water reservoir constructed in the 1950s.

Each reservoir is about 40m wide and 10m tall with a combined capacity of 22 million litres – nearly nine Olympic swimming pools of water.

The Willans Hill reservoirs form part of Riverina Water's low level system, which caters for many thousands of residents

and businesses nearby.

"Wagga Wagga is growing rapidly, with the expanding health and education precinct just below these two new reservoirs as well increased residential density in the future," Riverina Water Chairperson Councillor Greg Verdon said.

"These two new reservoirs put in place the infrastructure to provide high quality drinking water to this part of the city for many decades to come.

"I congratulate our staff, contractors and all involved for their work on this project, from the long-term planning to the construction and bringing the new reservoirs into service."

Works on the Willans Hill site started in 2018 with blasting to remove 60,000 tonnes of earth and rock. Approximately 1300 cubic metres of concrete has been poured to build the two new reservoirs, which are joined by an elevated platform.

Did you know? Our fixed water charge was 19% cheaper than the NSW local water utilities median cost in 2018/19, and in the past two years we have not increased this charge.

Staff have been working with Woomargama residents to spruce up this filling station.

The filling station will blend in with a nearby community garden that residents are currently developing.



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