

Water – water quality

Data Sheet

72

2009

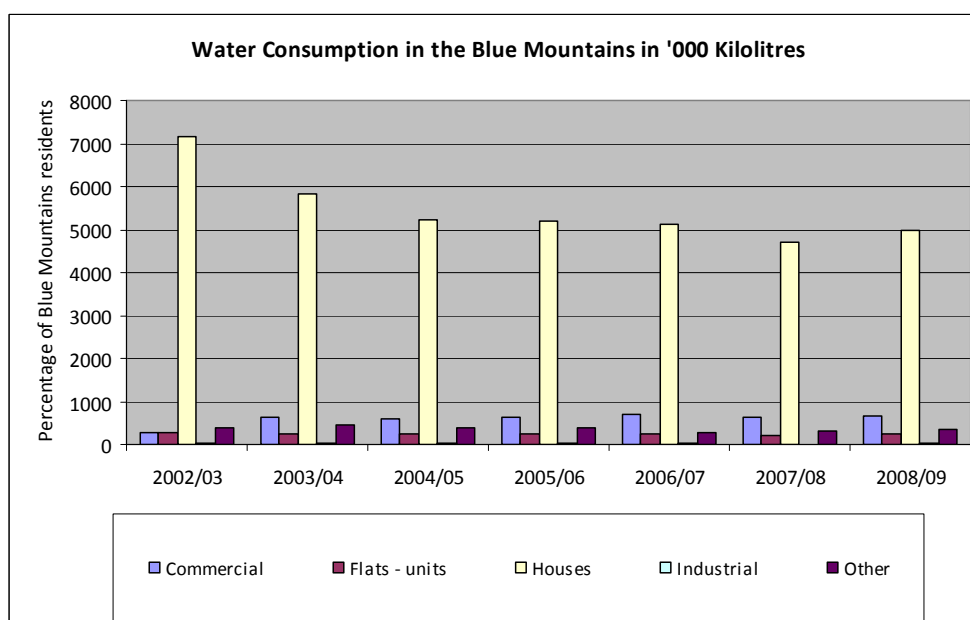
What are we monitoring?

The volume of water consumption in the Blue Mountains

What is the trend?

Between 2002-2003 and 2008-2009 the overall water consumption in the Blue Mountains declined by approx. 23%. However water consumption in the Blue Mountains increased by 6% between 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. Residential households reduced water consumption by approx. 30% between 2002-2003 and 2008-2009. This represented the most significant contribution to the decrease in water consumption. There has also been a significant decrease in government water usage for maintenance of crown and community land and water usage by non-profit organisations. The Commercial Sector increased water consumption by 239% in the same period.

Water supplied to the Blue Mountains is consumed by residents who reside in houses or apartment / flats, and by businesses and industry. The 'other' category of consumers includes government use for crown sites, community sites and exemptions for non profit organisations.



Water consumption in the Blue Mountains (in '000 kilolitres)							
Type of system	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Commercial	279	627	596	618	719	649	666
Flats - Units	269	252	246	240	234	226	246
Houses	7,142	5,832	5,244	5,184	5,113	4,690	4,984
Industrial	31	26	25	24	19	17	19
Other	386	462	388	390	297	316	339
Total	8,107	7,199	6,499	6,456	6,383	5,899	6,254

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Water is an increasingly scarce resource in Australia, as population and water usage increases in an environment with limited and fluctuating rainfall. The trend data may suggest that the residential community has a growing awareness of water related issues and our need to conserve this valuable resource.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council, 2007 – 2008 State of Environment Report – City of Blue Mountains; Sydney Water Corporation, 2009.