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City of Nedlands irrigation water savings

The City of Nedlands has significantly reduced its groundwater usage over the last year, delivering substantial cost savings and helping to conserve one of our most valued environmental resources.

The City has used 20% less bore water as metered for the financial year 2011/2012 as compared to 2010/11.

The Department of Water allocates 709,300 KL of groundwater for irrigation purposes to the City each year. The actual use last financial year was 564,494 KL which is 144,806 KL less than its allocation and a saving of 142,610 KL over the previous year. The average size of an Olympic swimming pool is 2,500 KL. Therefore the City has saved water that is equivalent to 57 Olympic swimming pools.

The City's involvement in ICLEI Oceania's Water Campaign™ has driven the City's water conservation initiatives. The recent achievement of Milestone 5 and recommitment to the Water Campaign™ demonstrate the City's commitment to improving City operations to conserve water for the future.

Mayor Hipkins said, "The conservation and protection of water resources is a high priority for the Council. The recent water savings initiatives across the City show the commitment that we have to the Irrigation Operating Strategy."

The Irrigation Operating Strategy is a water management initiative put in place by the City and is a requirement from the Department of Water in which all local councils must look at water efficiencies, usage monitoring and awareness of how to reduce water usage.

There are specific design and equipment solutions being implemented by the City to increase its groundwater usage efficiency. Hydro zoning is one such solution that matches precipitation to the specific watering needs of different areas.

In the near future, the City is looking to have central control of all irrigation systems so that we can better control monitoring and utilisation of this natural resource.

ENDS

For further information please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 3500.