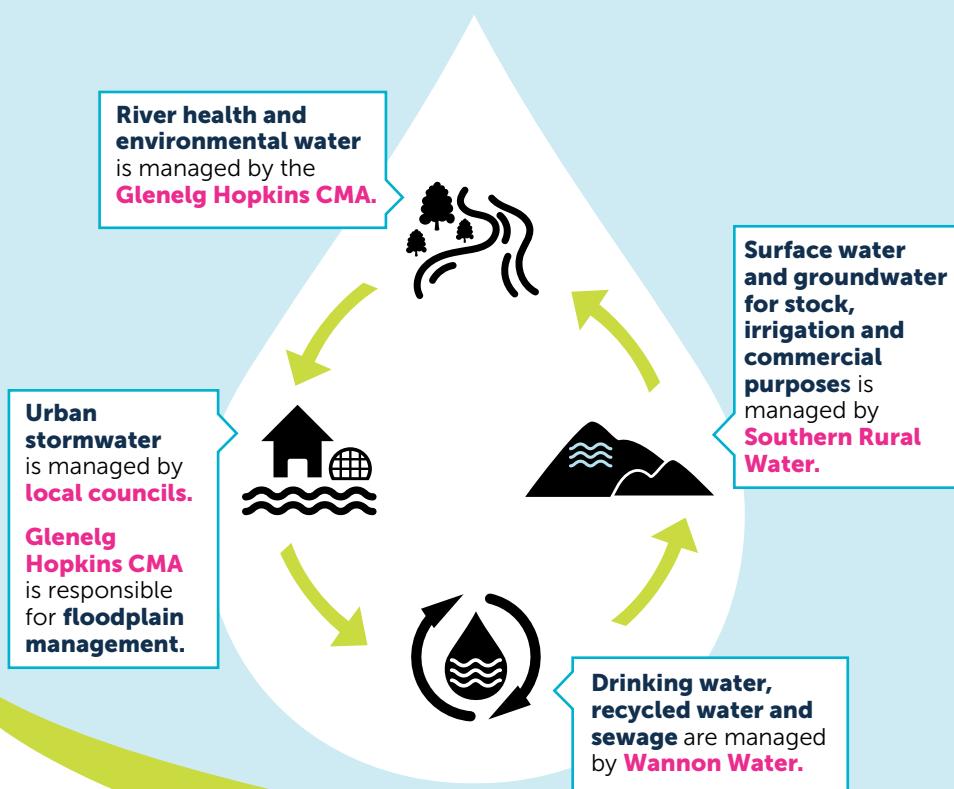


# Who manages water in South West Victoria?



Four key agencies, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority (Glenelg Hopkins CMA), Southern Rural Water, Wannon Water and local councils work together to manage water resources in South West Victoria.

Sometimes their boundaries overlap, but each organisation has a different role and provides different services to the community.



## Catchment management

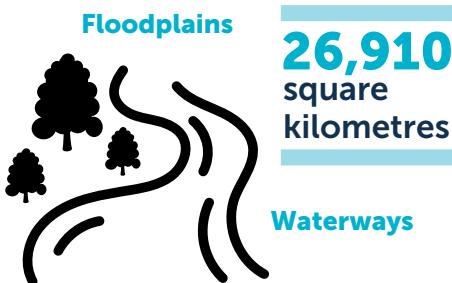
The Glenelg Hopkins CMA is responsible for managing catchment and waterway improvement programs on public and private land; sustainable irrigation development; works on waterways licences; floodplain management and identifying regional priorities for natural resource management funding.

This work is undertaken in collaboration with the community, landholders, Traditional Owners, and local, state and federal Government bodies.

[ghcma.vic.gov.au](http://ghcma.vic.gov.au)

The Glenelg Hopkins catchment region covers 26,910 square kilometres of South West Victoria and includes four basins: Glenelg, Millicent, Hopkins and Portland Coast.

The Glenelg Hopkins CMA has offices in Hamilton and at the Deakin University campus in Warrnambool.



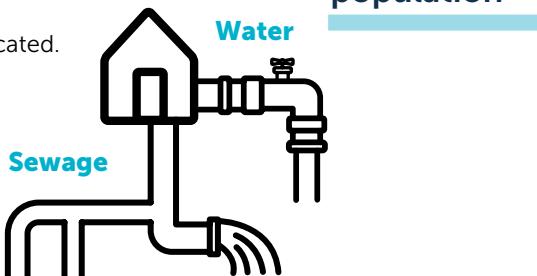
## Urban water

Wannon Water is the water authority responsible for sourcing and treating water supplied to customers' homes and businesses and managing and treating their sewage.

Wannon Water serves a population of more than 100,000, including the major centres of Warrnambool, Portland and Hamilton where customer service centres are located.

[wannonwater.com.au](http://wannonwater.com.au)

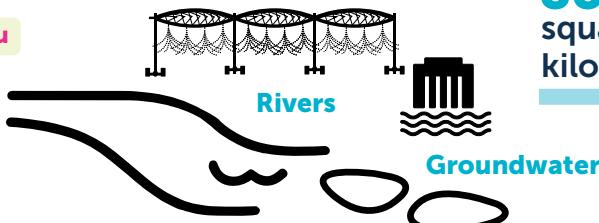
Wannon Water supplies water to 34 towns from a diverse range of sources and provides sewerage services to 16 towns.



## Rural water

Southern Rural Water operates seven major dams, eight diversion weirs, three irrigation districts. It also manages take and use licences for groundwater and rivers, and licences relating to catchment dams and farm dam registration in southern Victoria – an area of 88,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

[srw.com.au](http://srw.com.au)



Southern Rural Water delivers water for farms, rural and urban businesses, raw water for urban water corporations, electricity generation, and supports regional catchment and environmental water strategies.

**88,000**  
square  
kilometres

## Stormwater

Any rain that falls on roofs or collects on paved areas such as driveways, roads and footpaths is known as stormwater. The urban stormwater network is the responsibility of local councils.

Stormwater flows along kerbs and through drains and eventually ends up in our waterways, taking things such as sediment, leaves, silt, oils, chemicals and rubbish with it. You can help reduce the amount of pollution entering our rivers by composting garden waste, disposing of pet droppings in the bin, and not hosing or sweeping litter into the kerb.

It's important not to litter, as things that get washed into our bays and oceans via the stormwater system can take a long time to break down.

For instance, cigarette butts take one to five years to break down. A plastic bag can take 10-20 years, and plastic and glass bottles can hang around forever!



# Who's looking after your water?

Activity	Wannon Water	Glenelg Hopkins CMA	Southern Rural Water	Local councils
Store untreated water in reservoirs	✓			
Manage urban drinking water Including treatment, monitoring and delivery to homes.	✓			
Manage reticulated sewerage systems On-site (domestic) sewerage systems (e.g. septic tanks) is the responsibility of local councils.	✓			
Dispose of treated sewage (known as effluent), supply of recycled water	✓			
Manage urban stormwater		✓		✓
Manage, monitor and issue licences to take and use water From waterways, aquifers, dams and bores for domestic and stock, irrigation or commercial purposes.			✓	
Licence the construction, modification and operation of new and existing farm dams and bores			✓	
Meter the licensed take and use of water from waterways, aquifers, dams and bores			✓	
Assess and manage applications for temporary or permanent transfer of surface and groundwater used for farms and businesses			✓	
Implement the Victorian Government's surface water and groundwater management plans			✓	
Monitor river flows		✓	✓	
Monitor and report on water quality Agencies monitor and report on water quality for a range of purposes. Blue green algae outbreaks are managed locally by the land manager adjacent to the waterway. The EPA has accountability for investigating water quality issues.	✓	✓		
Manage river health		✓		
Manage drinking water catchment areas	✓	✓		
Manage floodplains and rural drainage schemes		✓		
Manage and deliver water for the environment		✓		
Issue permits for works on waterways		✓		