

WATER QUALITY

Water of adequate quality and quantity is central to the integrity of the environment. It is essential to our agricultural enterprises, even to our ability to ensure we have sufficient drinking water to supply our needs. The focus on our water resources is often on the volume of water available for particular purposes. However, water quality determines the suitability of water for a particular purpose.

Managing water quality requires a catchment-based approach as land uses have a major effect on the quality of water resources.

A concerted effort by land managers, industry, catchment groups, the community, environmental groups and Australian, state/territory and local governments is required to protect the quality of our water resources.



Volunteers water monitoring

Water quality in Australia

The National Water Quality Management Strategy (NWQMS) provides the information and tools to help communities manage their water resources to meet current and future needs. It provides policies, a process and a series of national guidelines for water quality management.

The Water Quality Management Framework includes a step-by-step approach to planning, implementing and managing water quality for your area, plus information about common environmental stressors.

Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs) identify the most cost-effective and timely projects for investment by all parties including the Australian Government, State and Local Governments, and community and environment groups.

The Tasmanian River Catchment Water Quality Initiative built on existing river catchment auditing and monitoring work to provide information in response to community concerns about pesticide use and the potential impact of pesticide pollution on the environment, human health and industry.

Source: <https://www.environment.gov.au/water/quality>