



Fact sheet

Recycled water for industry

Allconnex Water supplies recycled water to industrial, non-residential customers via direct connection to the recycled water network or through the recycled water carrier program.

What is recycled water?

Recycled water is wastewater that has been treated to stringent environmental and health guidelines and is beneficially reused.

Wastewater is sourced from homes and businesses in our region and includes water from showers, washing machines, kitchen sinks and toilets. Wastewater is collected from homes and businesses via the wastewater network.

The wastewater is treated at Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP), where it undergoes a range of purification processes to remove nutrients such as phosphate and nitrogen, chemicals and micro-organisms. The treatment processes must meet licence requirements set by the Department of Environment & Resource Management.

Recycled water can be treated to different qualities, known as classes, depending on the intended use of the product. The classes are described under the Public Health Regulation 2005 Schedule 3C-D (see table below for quality parameters).

	E.coli (cfu/100mL)	Free Chlorine mg/L	Turbidity (NTU)	Clostridium perfringens (cfu/100mL)	Somatic coliphages (pfu/100mL)	F-RNA bacteriophages (pfu/100mL)
Class A+	<1	>0.5	<2	<1	<1	<1
Class A	<10					
Class B	<100					
Class C	<1,000					
Class D	<10,000					
Monitoring frequency	Weekly	Daily	Daily	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly

cfu = colony forming units

pfu = plaque forming units

NTU = Nephelometric turbidity units

mg/L = milligram per litre

Results must be achieved in more than 95% of samples in a 12 month period

Allconnex Water provides a variety of classes of recycled water. Class C recycled water is available to customers from the following WWTPs:

- Loganholme
- Beenleigh
- Coombabah
- Elanora
- Merrimac

Class B recycled water is available at the Cleveland WWTP while Class A recycled water is supplied from Victoria Point WWTP.

Class A+ recycled water is only available to residents and businesses connected to the network supplied from the Pimpama Recycled Water Treatment Plant.

What are the benefits of using recycled water?

Recycled water is a climate resilient, reliable, alternative, non-drinking water resource. Recycled water use is not limited by any Queensland water restrictions.

The use of recycled water can:

- Reduce the amount of recycled water released into the environment and in turn reduce the amount of nutrients entering the ocean.
- Reduce the demand on potable (drinking) water reserves.

Recycled water use is helping to meet our regions' growing water needs.

Is recycled water safe to use?

Recycled water is safe to use if it is used properly. There are several safe practices which should be adopted for all classes of recycled water being handled. These include:

- washing hands with soap after use
- flushing and disinfecting any open wounds that come into contact with recycled water

For information on specific classes of recycled water, please refer to the relevant Product Information Sheets and the Class A+ recycled water terms of use document.

Is recycled water monitored?

Allconnex Water monitors recycled water on a weekly basis for a range of chemical and bacterial parameters. In addition, several parameters are continuously monitored for quality at each WWTP.

Recycled water must meet release limits set by the Department of Environment & Resource Management and the Public Health Regulation minimum quality standards before it can be supplied to customers.

Allconnex Water operates a notification system to alert customers to any quality issues should they arise.

What can recycled water be used for?

Use of recycled water varies depending on the class of recycled water supplied. Each use must be fit for purpose. For more information on appropriate uses of Class A – Class C recycled water, view the relevant product information sheets or for Class A+ recycled water, the terms of use document.

What can't recycled water be used for?

Recycled water of any class cannot be used in the following circumstances:

- drinking
- filling or topping up swimming pools
- bathing
- laundry
- any use which is not outlined for that class of recycled water

How to become an authorised recycled water customer.

Connecting to the recycled water network

Customers wishing to connect to the recycled water network must complete an Expression of Interest form which can be found on the Allconnex Water website. The information provided on this form will assist Allconnex Water in determining whether a connection to the existing recycled water network is possible.

If the application is successful, recycled water customers are required to enter into a supply agreement with Allconnex Water and must also submit a recycled water management plan (developed in accordance with the Queensland recycled water guidelines). All internal plumbing and connection costs are at the customer's expense.

Successful Class A+ recycled water applications will receive an approval to use recycled water and a terms of use document which outlines their responsibilities.

Recycled water carriers

Customers wishing to become authorised recycled water carriers in the region must submit an application form which is located on the Allconnex Water website. An approval will be given to successful applications.

How do I know where recycled water is being used?

Where recycled water is being used, specific signage will be present identifying the water as recycled water. The international colour for recycled water is purple or lilac. All pipes, fixtures and fittings must be colour coded accordingly. All recycled water vessels must display recycled water signage.