



30 August 2019

### **Rain welcome, but water restrictions still on the way**

Hunter Water welcomes rainfall today in the Lower Hunter, however is encouraging customers to continue to Love Water as the region approaches Level 1 water restrictions next month.

Given the very dry and warm conditions we have experienced, the rainfall is unlikely to have a significant and lasting impact on our dams, which are at their lowest levels in more than two decades.

Hunter Water's Executive Drought Lead Darren Cleary said the community should continue to conserve water wherever possible in preparation for water restrictions on 16 September.

"We are facing a severe drought in NSW and are seeing water storages across the state fall quicker than they did during the Millennium Drought.

"It's very welcome that after months of prolonged dry and warm weather in our region we are receiving some rain.

"We are, however, cautiously optimistic about its potential impact on our dams given how dry it has been. It may help wet the catchment areas, but we would need more follow-up rain to produce enough stream flow to significantly boost our dam levels.

"In saying that, it doesn't mean we shouldn't make the most of what's to come. We encourage all of our customers who have rainwater tanks to undertake a quick tune-up to ensure they are working efficiently. Simple things like checking the tank is connected to the roof properly and that the pump is working will make a difference.

"It's really important our community continues to be proactive in saving water wherever they can. At this stage, we could be heading into Level 2 water restrictions by December. Together, with the work Hunter Water is doing to reduce leakage across its network, we can help preserve our precious water supplies," said Mr Cleary.

For more information on Level 1 water restrictions and what it means for residential and business customers, visit [www.hunterwater.com.au/restrictions](http://www.hunterwater.com.au/restrictions)