

Darlington Water Supply: Your water is not safe to drink



The water we supply to your property is not disinfected and is not intended for human consumption. This includes drinking, food preparation, cleaning teeth and activities such as bathing or showering where ingestion may be possible.

You can use the water for watering gardens, flushing toilets, irrigation and laundry purposes.

Warning to customers

The non-drinking water Wannon Water supplies to you is sourced from a local groundwater bore. The water may contain levels of arsenic, lead and or micro-organisms in excess of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

The water is not treated so there is no protection against disease-causing organisms that may contaminate the water. There is also no control over the concentration of arsenic naturally occurring in the bore water.

Non-drinking water is also referred to as non-potable water, untreated water, raw water and, in the case of Darlington, regulated water.

What you need to do:

- Ensure **no cross-connections** exist between a non-drinking water supply and your drinking water source.
- Advise visitors to your home or business **not to ingest** the non-drinking water.
- Landlords should **notify tenants** that non-drinking water is not suitable for drinking or food preparation.
- Managers of facilities where non-drinking water taps are accessible to the public should **erect signs** advising that the water is not suitable for drinking, food preparation or other forms of consumption. Examples of facilities where taps may be accessible to the public include roadside picnic stops, public halls, sporting venues, and standpipes.



Please contact Wannon Water to obtain free stickers stating -

Non-drinking water: NOT suitable for drinking, food preparation or other forms of consumption.

Your water is not safe to drink

What would happen if I consumed the water?

Drinking untreated water that is contaminated with micro-organisms can lead to illnesses such as gastroenteritis and diarrhoea.

Water quality parameter	How these parameters impact on the use of water
Escherichia Coli (e coli) bacteria	Drinking untreated water that is contaminated with micro-organisms can lead to illnesses such as gastroenteritis and diarrhoea. These micro-organisms are not visible to the naked eye and may be present in water that appears to be clear.
Arsenic	Drinking water with arsenic levels in excess of the Australian Drinking Water guidelines (greater than 0.01 mg/L) may have an impact on individuals' health in the long term.
Lead	Drinking water with lead levels in excess of the Australian Drinking Water guidelines (greater than 0.01 mg/L) may have an impact on individuals' health (central nervous system) in the long term.
Manganese and Iron	Iron and Manganese colour the water and can stain plumbing fixtures and laundry
Hardness	Darlington's water is considered to be very hard which can result in scale forming on hot water pipes and fittings.
Salts	Over the past 12 months Darlington's water quality averaged 2850 mg/L total dissolved solids – which is a measure of salt or salinity. Water of this salinity is suitable only for use on plants that are tolerant to salinity.

What you can use non-drinking water for:

- **Toilet flushing** - note high manganese and iron levels may result in staining of the toilet bowl.
- **Laundry use** - note high manganese and iron levels may result in the staining of laundry. The hardness of the water may also result in scaling of hot water pipes.
- **Garden use** - note consideration needs to be given to the salt tolerance of the plants and lawn areas being watered.
- **Water source for stock and domestic animals.**

Further information

Please contact us on 1300 926 666 between the hours of 8.15am and 5pm Monday to Friday or email us at info@wannonwater.com.au

