

WATER RESTRICTIONS, MIDDLEMOUNT UPDATES AND FAQ'S

When did the Level 3 water restrictions come into effect?

In conjunction with Anglo American, Isaac Regional Council would like to remind Middlemount residents that Level 3 water restrictions remain in effect from Monday, 11 January.

Where does Middlemount's raw water come from?

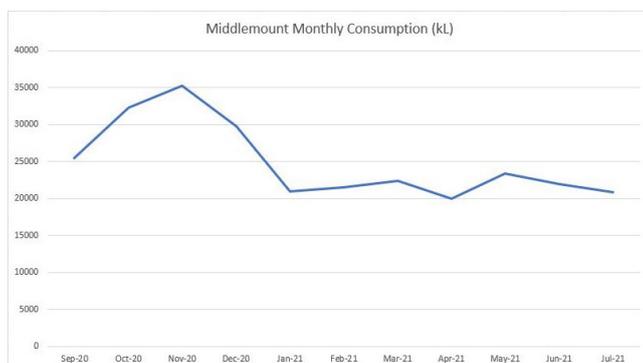
Middlemount's raw water supply is drawn from the Sunwater Nogoa-Mackenzie water supply scheme, which is fed from Fairbairn Dam near Emerald. Water is then extracted from the Bingegang Weir on the Mackenzie River and piped approximately 60km to Middlemount. This water also supplies local mines for operational requirements.

Why is Middlemount on Level 3 Water Restrictions?

Raw water reserves within the Isaac region remain low due to ongoing drought. Data shows the Fairbairn Dam water level is currently 16 percent and this feeds Middlemount through the Mackenzie River. Similarly, Bundoora Dam, which is located near Middlemount, has recorded its lowest water levels in 13 years. When water levels at Bundoora Dam are low, Anglo American relies on their allocation from the Mackenzie River. Therefore, these water restrictions are influenced by the broader Sunwater Nogoa-Mackenzie supply levels as well as Bundoora Dam water availability. They are in place to ensure more efficient use of the limited available water supply.

What is the current monthly trend of Middlemount water consumption?

The graph below indicates the trend in water consumption in Middlemount. Isaac Regional Council encourages residents and businesses to embrace water restrictions and water conservation measures.



How can I monitor what I use?

Residents can sign up to MiWater, a free service that provides water consumption information, and alerts to property owners and their tenants (upon approval) monitoring at www.isaac.qld.gov.au/miwater

How am I permitted to use water under Level 3 Water Restrictions?

A summary of Level 3 restriction conditions are as follows:

For residential users

- No watering on any day between 9am and 5pm
- Watering permitted 5am to 9am and 5pm to 9pm on designated watering days with a:
 - Watering can or bucket
 - No topping up or filling of pools, ponds & spas
 - No topping up of tanks/dams unless for firefighting purposes
 - Outboard motors may be flushed after use
 - Water must not be used to clean driveways or concreted/bricked areas

Watering Days

- Odd numbered houses water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday
- Even numbered houses water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
- Properties without a street number on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

Commercial users

- Water use permitted by way of an application for exemption and subject to conditions when connected to the Potable Reticulation Network and using potable water.

Does Bundoora Dam supply Middlemount's water?

No. Bundoora Dam is privately-owned by Anglo American and is located on the company's mining lease. The dam is not connected to other water sources, including potable water supplies.

Why is Bundoora Dam closed to public access?

Anglo American has closed public access to Bundoora Dam until further notice, as a health and safety precaution. Low water levels resulting from extended drought conditions mean the dam is not safe for recreational watercraft use, and current levels of blue-green algae in the water are not at an acceptable level to allow public access.