



# Using a fixed standpipe in regional Western Australia





## What is a fixed standpipe?

A fixed standpipe is a metered service which provides access to bulk water supplies directly from a point on a water supply main.

In regional WA, fixed standpipes connected to our service can be privately owned or owned by local government. Some local government owned fixed standpipes are available for use by the community and businesses.

Fixed standpipes provide an essential source of water for people in communities who are remote from reticulated water schemes and may otherwise have limited or no water for household purposes, firefighting or to supplement water for stock. Businesses remote from a reticulated water supply may rely on water carted from fixed standpipes to provide essential input to their business for production and for staff amenity.

# Accessing existing fixed standpipes

To access a fixed standpipe, please contact the local shire in the area you require water. They will be able to advise where the publicly accessible standpipes are located.

If you require more than 49 kilolitres per day for any purpose, you must contact Water Corporation to discuss your needs.

It is the user's responsibility to ask the shire for advice on how to safely access the fixed standpipe before operating it as the ongoing maintenance and repair of these is managed by the shire.

Type of fixed standpipes	Description
Local Authority Standpipe	<p><b>Use:</b> For use by shire only - locked and no public access available.</p> <p><b>Meter:</b> Can be any size service as long as it is for direct Shire use.</p>
Community Use Standpipe	<p><b>Use:</b> Available for public use to assist local farmers, households not connected to the water schemes and limited use by shire for their own purposes.</p> <p><b>Meter:</b> Only available for 20mm and 25mm standpipes that are publicly accessible.</p> <p><b>Farmlands tariff applies to each kilolitre of water used.</b></p>
Commercial or Private Standpipe	<p><b>Use:</b> Available for public use by commercial customers; may include major road building, water carting for large projects, farming.</p> <p>If greater than 49 kilolitres per day is required, contact Water Corporation for alternative options.</p> <p><b>Meter:</b> Any meter above 25mm</p> <p><b>Town based charges apply which are regulated by the government.</b></p>
Fire Standpipe	<p>For fire fighting only - Access by DFES and volunteer fire fighting units. No public access and should be locked or controlled to limit access.</p>

# Public access usage costs

The cost per kilolitre (1000 litres) of water from a public fixed standpipe is determined by the size and the flow rate of the meter.

Low flow rate fixed standpipes are charged a discounted rate and are provided for the benefit of households, farmers or the local shire. These fixed standpipes are 20mm or 25mm in size only.

Commercial users are encouraged to use high flow standpipes. High flow standpipes are charged the town based rate and are open for use by the general public. These are above 25mm in size.

Charging town based tariffs for high flow rate fixed standpipes provides consistency and equity across all commercial users in Western Australia. This ensures some businesses are not unfairly accessing subsidised rates.

Charges also vary between shires. Your local shire will be able to provide up-to-date information on the current rates.

Fixed fire standpipes exist for fire fighting and training purposes only. They generally have high flow rates to assist with firefighting and are controlled to limit access. They are not available for general public use.

Relevant fees and charges for fixed standpipes are updated annually and can be accessed on the Water Corporation website.

# Need a new fixed standpipe?

If public standpipes are not available, you can apply for a permanent or temporary fixed standpipe online through BuilderNet on the Water Corporation website.

Please note fixed standpipes are a last resort to be used when all other alternative water sources are not available or do not meet the water quality requirements.

Temporary fixed standpipes can only be provided where there is capacity in the scheme to support the additional demand. Please note, all temporary services, including fixed standpipes, are charged a minimum 6 month infrastructure charge even if the service is required for a shorter duration.

# How to apply for a new fixed standpipe

All applicants requiring access to water from a fixed standpipe for dust suppression must demonstrate that all alternative water sources have been thoroughly investigated prior to requesting a fixed standpipe water service from the water supply scheme.

## The alternatives could include:

- water courses
- bores
- dams
- drilling of a bore – apply to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and allow 3 months for your application to be assessed.

Water Corporation will need you to provide evidence of sourcing alternative water sources prior to approving a fixed standpipe being used for dust suppression.

## How to apply for a temporary fixed standpipe service

Once you have accessed the Water Corporation website, select BuilderNet under Quicklinks on the homepage. Request a temporary water service by selecting 'Lodge a water service application' and completing the form.

You will also need to complete and attach the Temporary Service Form - 'Water supply application' prior to submission.

If you need assistance to complete the application form, please call our BuilderNet Help Line on **1800 016 015** or use the online chat service. Both services are available during business hours.

## How to apply for a permanent service

Once you have logged into BuilderNet, you can request the type of service you require by selecting 'Lodge a water service application' and completing the form.

Permanent fixed standpipe fees will be discussed as part of the application process and will depend on the infrastructure chosen and flow rate required.

## The following fees apply for a fixed standpipe service:

- an administrative fee
- infrastructure contributions
- by-law charges for each kilolitre of water used
- connection and disconnection fees
- loss or damage to the water meter or water service (if applicable)
- annual service charge for non-local government fixed standpipes.



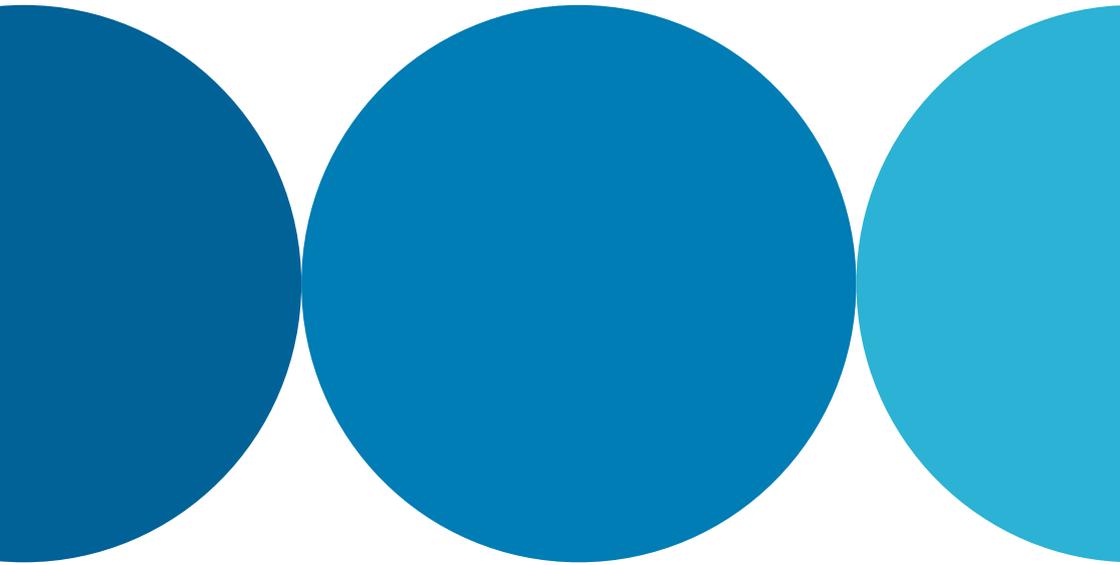
# Drought conditions

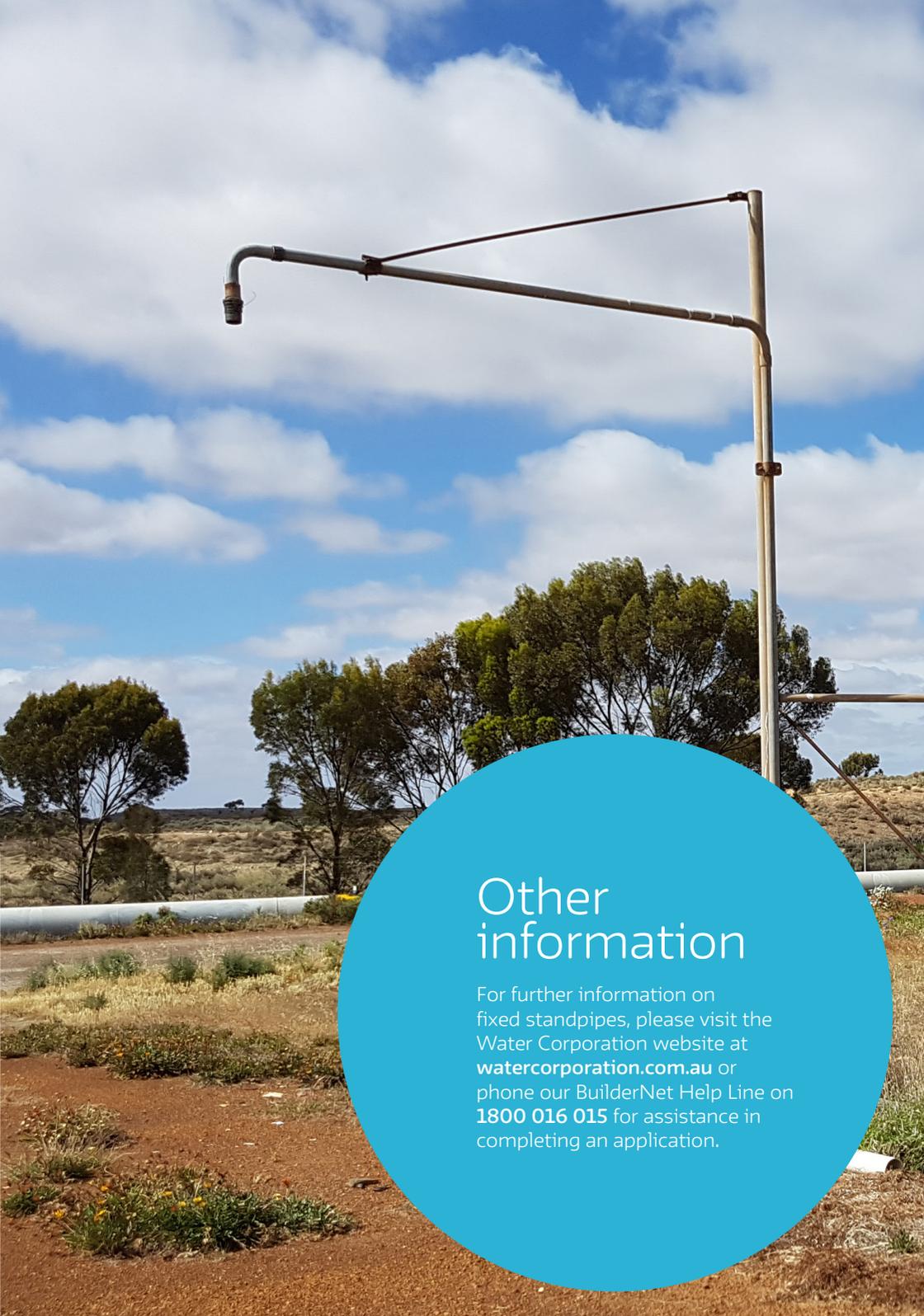
A 'Water Deficiency Declaration' is a government response to safeguard the use of this precious resource during very dry periods.

When a state government declared drought zone exists, all large shire-owned fixed standpipes will be made available at concessional rates to the community for drought relief in accordance with the terms of the declaration conditions. If conditions for commercial use relief are not specified then standard rates will apply.

# User responsibilities

- Public standpipes that develop a fault or are damaged must be reported to the shire.
- You must ask the shire for advice on how to safely access the fixed standpipe before operating it.
- From time to time, Water Corporation may declare a public fixed standpipe is not to be used for operational reasons. You must comply with this directive to ensure protection of the drinking water supply.
- Do not access water from a fire fighting standpipe as these are for use by DFES or volunteer country fire services only.
- It is the responsibility of the standpipe owner to ensure suitable high rated backflow prevention is installed. These devices require annual testing. Your licensed plumbing contractor certified in backflow prevention will be able to assist you in meeting these requirements.



A tall, silver metal standpipe stands in a rural landscape. The standpipe has a horizontal arm extending to the left, which is angled downwards and ends in a black nozzle. The background features a line of green trees, a white pipe running horizontally across the middle ground, and a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground is a mix of brown soil and sparse green vegetation.

## Other information

For further information on fixed standpipes, please visit the Water Corporation website at [watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au) or phone our BuilderNet Help Line on **1800 016 015** for assistance in completing an application.



13 13 85 Account Enquiries (8am - 5pm weekdays)  
13 13 75 Faults, Emergencies and Security (24 hours)  
13 36 77 National Relay Service

This information is available in alternative formats on request.

**[watercorporation.com.au/contact](http://watercorporation.com.au/contact)**

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