

MEDIA RELEASE

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United by Water this National Water Week (16-22 October 2023): Encouraging Australians to Collaborate on Water Issues

Today marks the start of National Water Week 2023, a national campaign that inspires individuals, communities, and organisations to build awareness around the universal value of water. National Water Week runs 16-22 October with the 2023 theme of 'United by Water' homologous to the Ozwater'23 theme.

Every year on the third week of October, National Water Week focuses on a broad theme allowing all communities an opportunity to participate. It celebrates water's vital role in connecting us all. Water touches every aspect of development. It drives economic growth, supports healthy ecosystems, and is essential and fundamental for life and First Nations Culture.

"United by Water acknowledges the important role water plays across all dimensions of our society and culture. Working in partnership across sectors, across countries, with our communities and with Traditional Knowledge in an inclusive and respectful way, will be required to tackle our current and future challenges," said Corinne Cheeseman, AWA CEO.

National Water Week 2023 is also timed with several new AWA initiatives including:

- The official announcement of the inaugural Chris David AM Fellowship winner, which celebrates leaders in sustainable water management;
- Launch of our new careers website, with a comprehensive source of water-related career resources and information; and
- The finalisation and launch of our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, communicating our commitment to reconciliation to all of our thousands of AWA members.

To get involved in National Water Week, individuals, schools, and organisations can go to the official website at www.nationalwaterweek.org to host or support an event, or to find a National Water Week Ambassador to come and speak at your school during the week. Share your water stories and use the hashtags **#NationalWaterWeek** and **#UnitedbyWater** to show your support for National Water Week.

AWA is excited to bring you National Water Week again this October and cannot wait to see the ways in which the water community and people across the country are united by water.

- **ENDS**

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About the Australian Water Association

Australian Water Association is Australia's biggest water network inspiring and driving a sustainable water future, with a membership of over 5,000 individual and corporate members. www.awa.asn.au

About National Water Week

In 2006, the Australian Government appointed the AWA as the official organiser of National Water Week and we're pleased to announce that the AWA has partnered with the Federal Government in a three-year agreement to help elevate National Water Week's profile.

Each October, National Water Week encourages Australians to work together on water issues and future fixes. It's also a reminder to everyone that access to clean water is hugely important to our daily lives, and it's down to all of us to protect our water environments and resources and use water wisely. <https://www.nationalwaterweek.org/>