



SAFETY FIRST

Advanced spray course

AgSkilled is holding a series of *advanced spray courses* across the region from next month. The training will cover preparing, applying, transporting and storing chemicals, monitoring weather conditions and operating chemical application machinery and equipment. Sessions are Deniliquin (22 May), Finley (29 May) and Jerilderie (5 June). Participants must register one month prior to the course. Call 02 6345 5818 or 0437 455818 or email craig.day@bigpond.com.

New board structure

Murray Irrigation will continue to pursue its program of board reform with five member directors and three independents. And, with nominations for three member director positions closing at 5.00pm this Friday 13 April, eligible candidates are encouraged to lodge their nomination as a matter of urgency.

The actual ballot to appoint directors will be held from 27 April to 28 May and the three new directors will end their term of appointment at the AGM in November 2019, after which time they are able to stand again. For full details, see: <https://goo.gl/3EhdDM> or call Customer Support 1300 138 265.

Shareholders vote for positive change

Murray Irrigation shareholders have made a substantial step towards reform of the company's board by voting in favour of one of two constitutional changes relating to board elections and the criteria for directors. More than 90 people attended the company's Extraordinary General Meeting on 4 April with an even greater number of shareholders presenting their views by proxy. In total, 592 valid votes were processed. For full details, see: <https://goo.gl/1Mhb8c>.

Official EGM poll results

The EGM official poll results can be viewed here: <https://goo.gl/JYQzPJ>.

End of season closures – 1 May

Mulwala Canal and Wakool Canal offtakes will close at 8am on Tuesday 1 May to commence major off-season works.

Key points to consider:

- There will be no off-allocation deliveries this season. Murray Irrigation intends to retain as much water in the system as possible to avoid potential delays with filling for the 2018/19 season (which opens in August).
- Customers should place water orders for the remainder of this season early (including filling dams for stock and domestic purposes). Orders close at 6.30am on Monday 23 April. Channel levels are already being drawn down in areas without water orders in the system.
- Any deliveries after 1 May will be opportunistic only.

Changes to orders can be made via the online *Water ordering system* (water.murrayirrigation.com.au) or by calling 1300 781 431. Customers wishing to discuss their requirements should contact Customer Support immediately on 1300 138 265. Full details, see: <https://goo.gl/8ahDaj>.

Allocation announcement Monday

NSW Crown Lands and Water will announce its next water allocation on Monday 16 April. The announcement is expected to include an indicative water availability outlook for the start of the 2018/19 water year. Why wait for Murray Irrigation to forward the announcement? Subscribe directly to it here: <https://goo.gl/XZ8ZAd>.

In the know: SRI

Southern Riverina Irrigators (SRI) has hit the ground running in the first quarter of the year, with the executive group meeting key stakeholders in government and industry. SRI has also produced a series of submissions that focuses on the need for 'triple bottom line' results in favour of its membership. To keep up with all SRI news and submissions, visit: www.southernriverinairrigators.com.au.

Native vegetation funding

The newly-established Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) is calling for expressions of interest from farmers in the Western Murray Landcare area interested in earning annual payments to conserve biodiversity on their property. To be eligible, you need to be in priority areas within Berrigan, Edward River, Federation, Murray River and Murrumbidgee local government areas. Expressions of interest are due this Friday 13 April. For details, contact the BCT on 1300 992 688.

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 51 %
Water resource distribution 8 %
(issued against Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(10/04/18)
Vol. remaining % of entitlements 20 %
On-farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-farm balance 164 GL
On-farm usage 712 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for sale 5,078 ML
Price range \$145 - \$250
Buy offer \$130
Yesterday's sales 731 ML
Price range \$140 - \$144
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

03/04/18 – 09/04/18

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML).....52; 3,359ML
External buyers (No. & ML).....0; 0ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML).....25; 3,296ML
External sellers (No. & ML).....2; 63ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade 4,543ML (week) 55,424ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

GL used on farm 18 GL (62%
on annual pasture)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	3,715	10,000
Wakool Canal	609	2,350
Escape flows	600	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

03/04/18 – 09/04/18 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 38.1mm
Tullakool 0.0mm 35.2mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth 3,417 GL 89 %
Hume 1,089 GL 36 %
Lake Victoria 225 GL 33 %
Menindee Lakes 252 GL 15 %
Total Storage 4,983 GL 54 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 13,957 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 8,141 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge 2,353 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald 213 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy 59 ML/d
Flow to SA 6,071 ML/d
Murray to the sea 3 gates open

This information is provided for general reference purposes only. Murray Irrigation takes best endeavours to ensure accuracy. It is collated at 8.00am Tuesdays and is subject to change.