

# healthy Waterways

## River Health Incentives Program

Financial assistance for river health improvement projects



## Information for owners and managers of land adjacent to a river or creek

### About the program

Melbourne Water's River Health Incentives Program makes financial assistance available to landowners, land managers, organisations and groups to carry out work that will help to improve the condition of a river or a creek. The program is one of the ways Melbourne Water works in partnership with communities to improve river health.

If you own or manage land adjacent to a river or a creek in the area managed by Melbourne Water, you may be eligible for financial assistance through the program\*.

\*Successful applicants are allocated funds through one of Melbourne Water's River Health Incentives Program grants. These include Stream Frontage Management Program grants, Community grants and Corridors of Green grants.

### About us

Melbourne Water is the caretaker of river health for the Port Phillip and Westernport region. Together with communities, we aim to improve the health of rivers and creeks, supporting increased numbers of platypus, native fish and plant life.

There are over 8000 km of rivers and creeks in the area we manage but not all of them are as healthy as they could be. Our aim is for 50% of them to be in good or better condition by 2015. Projects funded through the River Health Incentives Program are helping to achieve this goal. There is more information on our website ([melbournewater.com.au](http://melbournewater.com.au)) about how we look after rivers and creeks.



## Who we assist

- Private landowners
- Public land managers (state and local government authorities, including managers of golf courses and sporting clubs on public land)
- Community groups who do related work on public land.

You must have creek or river frontage on the land you manage to be eligible for assistance.

## What we can assist you with

The program helps to fund materials and/or labour for on-ground works that improve the environmental condition of rivers and creeks. Funds are allocated to successful applicants on a cost-share basis, with Melbourne Water and the applicant sharing the total cost.

### Eligible materials and works include:

- streamside fencing
- weed control
- new planting/revegetation
- off-stream stock watering points
- minor stream bank stabilisation
- some ongoing maintenance.

### We also consider applications for:

- technical advice
- educational needs (e.g. chemical use certification).

If proposed works are complex (e.g. erosion control requiring rock work), we may refer them to a Melbourne Water work team to do.

### Contact us if you would like to discuss:

- your project
- ideas for works or materials not listed here.

## Your role

Depending on what materials or works are funded, landowners and land managers who receive assistance through the program are required to:

- organise contractors, if required, to carry out funded works
- complete the agreed works within an agreed period of time (usually 12 or 18 months)

- fence the waterway along the agreed alignment (a minimum setback of 10m is usually required) and maintain fences and gates in good order
- maintain new plantings
- organise initial and follow-up weed control
- keep stock out of revegetated/regenerated areas
- use sympathetic farm and land management practices, and
- manage their frontage in the long term for improved river health outcomes.

## How to apply

1. Complete the River Health Incentives Program application form
2. Email or post the application form to:  
River Health Incentives Program, Melbourne Water,  
Reply Paid, PO Box 4342, East Melbourne VIC 8001  
Phone: (03) 9235 2231  
Email: [river.health@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:river.health@melbournewater.com.au)

## Assessment and notification

We will send you an acknowledgement when we receive your application. Eligible and priority applicants will be contacted to arrange a site assessment. The site assessment enables us to further develop the project, in discussion with the applicant, so that the works meet the applicant's and our requirements.

### Privacy statement

Melbourne Water respects the privacy of your personal information. We collect and handle personal information responsibly and in conformity with the Information Privacy Act 2000 (Vic). Personal information collected as part of the River Health Incentives Program will be collected and handled in accordance with that Act. Your personal information will only be used for the purpose of assessing and administering your application and any future applications.

To process your application, Melbourne Water may need to check with your local council and/or state government departments regarding the title status of your waterway frontage, and/or whether there is an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage site within your waterway frontage.

You may seek access to your personal information by contacting Melbourne Water. If you have any questions about our privacy policy, visit our website, [melbournewater.com.au](http://melbournewater.com.au), or call us on 131 722.

### Contact details

River Health Incentives Program, Waterways Group, Melbourne Water.  
Phone: (03) 9235 2231. Website: [melbournewater.com.au](http://melbournewater.com.au)

Printed on 100% recycled Eco Star

# healthy Waterways

## River Health Incentives Program

# Application Form



I am a private landowner/public land manager

I am interested in improving the health of my river/creek waterway frontage

### Project location

Property address

---

Name of river/creek

---

Melway/Esmap/VicMap reference

---

### Contact details

Name of landowner/land manager

Mr  Mrs  Ms  Miss  Dr  Other

First name

---

Surname

---

Group/Organisation name (only if the applicant)

---

Postal address

---

Postcode

---

Telephone (Home)

---

(Business)

---

Mobile

---

Email

---

### Land use (please tick)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy                | <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hobby farm           | <input type="checkbox"/> Horticulture/Orchard/Vineyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development site     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential          | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf course/Sporting club     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School               | <input type="checkbox"/> Public open space             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation reserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)        |
- 

### Land ownership (tick the category which best describes the creek frontage land)

- Private freehold  
 Crown land

Crown land water frontage licence number

---

Type of licence (please tick)

- Grazing  Conservation  Grazing & conservation  
 Other (please specify)
- 

(Funding can only be provided for works on licensed Crown frontages)

- Crown land reserved water frontage  
(managed by a Committee of Management)  
 Council reserve  
 State or national park

### Length of waterway frontage\*

\* Preference will be given to properties with river/creek frontage greater than 50 m and/or works involving groups of neighbours. (If your property has short river/creek frontage, we encourage you to develop a project which involves your neighbours.)

### Type/s of assistance you require (please tick)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-stream stock watering                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revegetation               | <input type="checkbox"/> Channel stabilisation                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exotic tree/willow control | <input type="checkbox"/> Weed control                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Property or frontage management planning |

### How did you find out about Melbourne Water grants?

(please tick)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Press advertisement | <input type="checkbox"/> Field day      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landcare group      | <input type="checkbox"/> Direct mailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other          |
- 

### Any other project/location information:

---

**Disclaimer** This publication may be of assistance to you but Melbourne Water and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

© Copyright August 2009 Melbourne Water Corporation. All rights reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, photocopied or otherwise dealt with without the prior written permission of Melbourne Water Corporation.

No stamp required  
if posted in Australia










River Health Incentives Program  
Melbourne Water  
Reply Paid  
PO Box 4342  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8001

## Please provide a sketch map of property project site/location

### Draw a map below indicating:

- the approximate position of major features (e.g. waterways, boundaries, roads, bridges, buildings)
- the approximate location of your proposed works (fence lines, weed control, revegetation areas), and
- approximate dimensions of project site (in metres or hectares).

### Key

- N** ↑ North     Waterway     Road
-  Dam     Fence     Weeds
-  Remnant Vegetation     Proposed Revegetation



MOISTEN GLUE HERE

