

# Monbulk Creek Network Upgrade Project

**Healthy waterways are essential to our native wildlife and to our way of life today, tomorrow and for generations to come.**

Great news for the platypus! The Monbulk Creek Smart Water Network program is well underway, with the first stage at Birdsland Reserve almost complete.

Delivered by Melbourne Water in partnership with the University of Melbourne, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, South East Water and Yarra Ranges Council, we're installing new equipment to actively and remotely release water flows to Monbulk Creek. Supported by The Platy Patch, a statewide initiative, these works aim to restore urban waterways, reduce stormwater impacts and protect endangered platypus habitats and aquatic life.

## What are we doing?

Until **August 2025**, we'll be upgrading the two ponds at Birdsland Reserve on Mount Morton Road in Belgrave.

To prepare for the installation of new pipes with remote-controlled valves, water sensors and solar-powered controls, we'll be conducting sheet piling during the **first two weeks of July**. This crucial step creates a strong foundation, ensuring a safe and stable work environment. Nearby community members may notice some increased noise and vibration during this period.

## What's happening:

- sheet piling
- excavation for new pipes, followed by pipe laying and backfilling
- installation of new technology, including flow meters, level sensors and a control cabinet for remote operation
- installation of a solar power system
- testing and activation of the new water release system.

After the works are completed, we will reinstate areas affected by our work activities, including re-grassing. This will be undertaken in accordance with re-vegetation and reinstatement plans approved by Yarra Ranges Council.

## What to expect

Until **late August 2025**, a portion of the Platypus Lake Walk and the pedestrian bridge near the ponds will be temporarily closed.

During this time, visitors will need to retrace their steps to return to the car park.

We'll make every effort to minimise construction impacts to the surrounding community during works, however you may notice:

- some noise, dust and vibration from machinery
- an increase in construction crews, vehicles and equipment in the area
- traffic management in place to help guide motorists, bike riders and pedestrians safely through the area.

## Working hours

We will be working **Monday to Friday, 7am to 3pm**. Dates and times may change subject to weather conditions.

## Location of works

The works will take place at **Birdsland Reserve, Mount Morton Road in Belgrave**.

During this time there will be changes to the way you get around and we thank you for your patience while we complete this work.



## How to get involved

For more information on the Monbulk Creek Smart Water Network's Tanks for Platypus program visit [www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Environment/Sustainable-communities/Healthy-Waterways/Tanks-for-Platypus](http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Environment/Sustainable-communities/Healthy-Waterways/Tanks-for-Platypus) or to discuss whether your property is suitable to participate, contact Yarra Ranges Council on 1300 368 333 or [sustainability@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@yarraranges.vic.gov.au).

## Acknowledgement

Melbourne Water acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of this land.

*This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust under the Urban Rivers and Catchments Program, the Victorian Government, Melbourne Water, The University of Melbourne, Yarra Ranges Council, South East Water, under the guidance of the Arthur Rylah Institute.*

*The work forms part of the landmark \$24 million 'Platy Patch Project', a four-year, statewide initiative receiving significant co-funding from the Australian Government, Victorian Government and Melbourne Water.*



**Australian Government**



**PLATY PATCH:**  
An Urban Rivers  
Platypus Recovery  
Initiative



**Monbulk Creek**  
Smart Water Network

### Keep up to date with what's happening

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