

# Changing practices in urban areas

## Water recycling

During 2003/04, 418 Gegalitres (GL) of treated effluent was produced by the 181 sewage treatment plants located around Victoria, the majority coming from Melbourne. Around 17% of the total treated effluent was recycled. The percentage of water recycling by regional urban water authorities declined slightly between 1999 and 2004.<sup>1</sup>

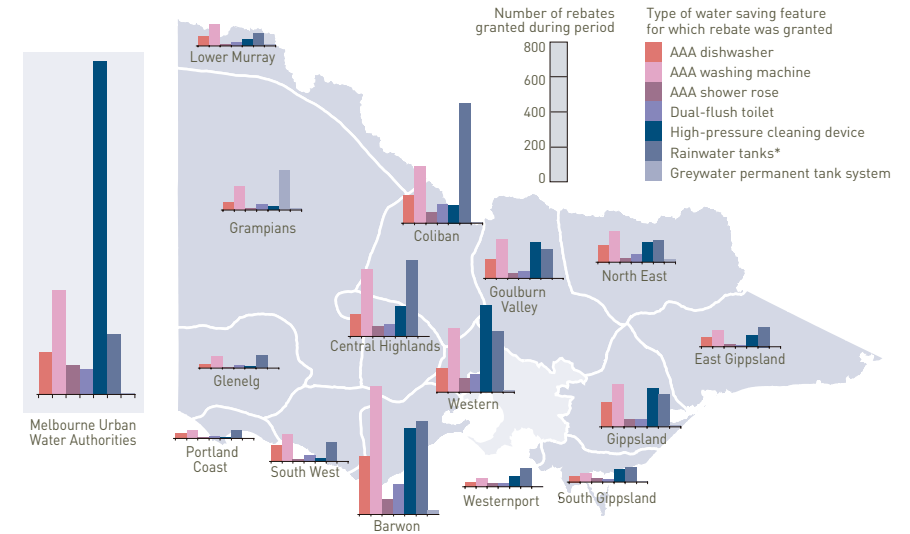
## Percentage of water recycled<sup>2</sup>

Non-metropolitan Urban Water Authorities, 2003/04



## Use of Victorian Government water home rebate scheme<sup>3</sup>

1 Jan 2003 to 24 Feb 2005



\*rainwater tank rebate includes all tank sizes & water conservation audit rebate

## Water rebate schemes

The first phase of the Water Smart Gardens and Homes Rebate Scheme was launched by the Victorian Government in January 2003. Under the scheme, rebates are available on specific products which enable domestic water savings to be made. These products include rainwater tanks, grey water systems, dual flush toilets and AAA rated appliances such as dishwashers and washing machines.

Three Water Authority areas in regional Victoria have obtained the largest number level rebates for rainwater tanks. In Melbourne high pressure cleaning devices have been the most popular item for which rebates have been sought. In the two years to March 2005, over 95,000 Victorians have claimed more than \$6 million of rebates on water efficient products.<sup>3</sup>

Sources <sup>1</sup>DSE 2005 *State Water Account* <sup>2</sup>WIA 2004 *Victorian Water Review* <sup>3</sup>DSE 2005 "Rebates for Homes and Gardens"