

Our Ref: A5294932
Property Id:

23 January 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

Blue-Green Algae Warning for Murray Valley Irrigation Area No.4 Channel downstream of Lorenz Road.

Goulburn-Murray Water has detected high blue-green algae levels within the Murray Valley Irrigation Area No.4 Channel downstream of Lorenz Road.

Blue-green algae present a risk to the health of humans and animals. The algae detected are potentially toxic and may cause gastroenteritis if ingested. Characteristic signs of algae contact are skin rashes or itchiness; sore eyes, ears and nose; or if swallowed, nausea or vomiting.

The situation is being closely monitored and the following precautions are recommended:

- People and pets should avoid contact with the water.
- People who come into contact with affected water should wash affected skin immediately in clean cold water.
- Untreated water should never be used for human consumption (e.g. drinking, cooking, showering, bathing, washing).
- Boiling the affected water will not make it safe to use. Blue-green algae release toxins into the water when heated.
- Seek an alternative water supply for stock and pets where possible.
- Water can be used on gardens, however water should **not** be sprayed on vegetables and fruit.
- Stock should be kept away from recently irrigated areas for at least 7 days.

You can determine if the warning is still current by visiting the GMW website <https://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-operations/bga> or by ringing 1800 013 357.

Further information on blue-green algae can also be found on the GMW and Agriculture Victoria websites (<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/water/blue-green-algae-in-water/bluegreen-algae-and-irrigation-water>)

Please remember that water supplied by GMW is not suitable for human consumption without first being properly treated.

Yours sincerely

Bianca Atley
ACTING WATER QUALITY MANAGER

PO Box 165 Tatura Victoria 3616 Australia

reception@gmwater.com.au

1800 013 357

www.gmwater.com.au

