

PERMANENT WATER SAVING RULES AND WATER RESTRICTIONS

Offences and Penalties

Issue Date 2010-2011

Permanent Water Saving Rules and water restrictions must be followed and Authorised Water Officers can issue fines to customers across Melbourne who do not comply.

If you do not comply with either:

- Permanent Water Saving Rules; or
- Any prevailing Stage of restrictions;

Your water utility may either give you an official warning, an on-the-spot fine called a Penalty Infringement Notice (or PIN), or seek to prosecute you for an offence. Your water utility may also restrict your water supply in accordance with section 85(5) of the Water Industry Act 1994.

The maximum penalties for individuals as at the issue date above are summarised in the following tables.

The maximum penalties for failing to comply with the Permanent Water Saving Rules, which apply at all times, are:

PIN	\$119.00
First Offence	\$1,194.00
Subsequent Offence	\$2,389.00
Continuing Offence	\$239.00 per day up to a total of \$2,389.00

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
PIN	\$239.00	\$358.00	\$478.00	\$597.00
First Offence	\$1,792.00	\$2,389.00	\$3,583.00	\$4,778.00 or 3 months' jail
Subsequent Offence	\$3,583.00	\$4,778.00	\$7,167.00 or 3 months' jail	\$9,556.00 or 6 months' jail
Continuing Offence	\$597.00 per day up to a total of \$2,389.00	\$597.00 per day up to a total of \$2,389.00	\$597.00 per day up to a total of \$2,389.00	\$597.00 per day up to a total of \$2,389.00

The penalty for a continuing offence is in addition to the penalty for the initial offence.

The maximum penalty for a company is five times the penalty for an individual for each penalty other than a PIN outlined above.

Instead of, or as well as, prosecuting you for not complying with a prevailing Stage of restrictions, your water utility may also prosecute you for taking or using water without its consent under section 289 of the Water Act 1989. The maximum penalties for an offence under that section are as follows:

First Offence	\$7,167.00 or 6 months' jail
Subsequent Offence	\$14,334.00 or 12 months' jail
Continuing Offence	\$597.00 per day up to a total of \$2,389.00



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