



Media Release

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First Water Bottle Refill Station for Lake Macquarie

Lake Macquarie's first water bottle refill station has been launched in Toronto, ready to help foreshore visitors save money and the environment.

The station is part of a trial by Hunter Water, Lake Macquarie City Council and Toronto Tidy Towns to encourage people to refill reusable bottles rather than buy disposable plastic ones.

The refill station is located near the rotunda in Regatta Walk Foreshore Park, a convenient spot for the many walkers and cyclists using the foreshore area.

Council's Manager Sustainability, Alice Howe, said plastic bottle use was on the rise in Australia with much of the waste ending up in landfill.

"With 2.7 million tonnes of plastic being used to produce plastic bottles worldwide each year, and over 65% of that ending up in landfill, we need to be making it easy for people to refill and reuse," Dr Howe said.

"Filling a reusable bottle also reduces your carbon footprint when you consider the energy used to produce a plastic bottle, transport it to the shop, and then dispose of it as waste."

Hunter Water General Manager Systems Strategy and Sustainability, Peter Dennis, said the refill station was another sustainability initiative to help local residents make a difference.

"The water refill station is a fantastic way to make the most of the Hunter's top quality drinking water, and the result of a great partnership with Lake Macquarie City Council.

"We know the community is keen to find more sustainable ways to use water, and opting for reusable bottles is easier and cheaper than buying bottled water," Mr Dennis said.

Toronto Tidy Towns President, Kelly Hoare, said that the refill station trial perfectly complemented the Toronto Tidy Towns' campaign on bottled water. "We are delighted that Hunter Water and Council were able to provide this practical assistance," Ms Hoare said.

The refill station also includes a hygienic bubbler for thirsty people without a bottle.

Editor's Notes

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