



# Hunter Water Corporation Media Release

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## **MAITLAND BUSINESSES SAVE BIG ON WATER**

Maitland businesses are improving their bottom line at the same time as protecting the environment through a free Hunter Water program that is saving millions of litres of water.

The Business Savers Program involves water efficiency experts from Hunter Water working with Maitland businesses to reduce water bills using technology that typically pays for itself in a year.

Calvary Retirement Communities, the Mecure Maitland and Maitland Benevolent Society have joined the program and have already saved 4 million litres, which has reduced their collective water bill by \$10,000.

Martin Conner from Hunter Water said the most common way for businesses to save water was to install simple, efficient devices like showerheads, flow-restrictors on taps and dual flush toilets.

"Businesses with a lot of amenities or large kitchens such as hotels, retirement villages and restaurants can often save significant amounts of water by spending very little on water efficient fixtures," Mr Conner said.

"The upfront costs of installing the efficient devices are soon paid through water savings. After that, the water saved is money in the bank for these businesses and water in our dams for the community."

Mecure Maitland General Manager Rena Taylor said the program had would reduce her business' water use by 30% and save \$4,500 per year.

"Hunter Water found our showers were running at up to 20 litres per minute. Our new water efficient showers are saving 4,200 litres per day, which also brings our energy bill down because we are using less hot water," Ms Taylor said.

Member for Maitland Robyn Parker said the program further enhanced the Maitland business community's environmentally friendly reputation.

"Maitland is proud of its green credentials and that's why local businesses are keen to take part in this program with Hunter Water," she said.

"The NSW Government is committed to continuing to develop through agencies such as Hunter Water, green programs which benefit the environment as well as the bottom line for small business."

Hunter Water is currently taking applications from businesses wanting a free water audit.