

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?



Bellingen Shire Council provides treated water to residents in Dorrigo, Bellingen, Fernmount, Urunga, Raleigh, Repton and Mylestom.

But where does our water come from? All of our municipal water is extracted from the Bielsdown River in Dorrigo, and the Bellinger River at Thora. This is done using specialised bores and infiltration wells. After extraction, water is treated to drinking level standards and pumped into a number of storage reservoirs. Reservoirs are then connected to residential properties through a large network of supply pipes.

Other areas like Megan, Bostobrick, Brierfield, Kalang and Spicketts Creek are not connected to municipal water, and rely on water tanks and private water sharing agreements.



'BINDARRAY' MEANS RIVER IN GUMBAYNGGIR LANGUAGE

THE WATER JOURNEY

1: RAIN & GROUNDWATER

Rivers and aquifers are replenished through rainfall and the movement of groundwater through the landscape. It is important that water can infiltrate the soil in our catchments, in order to recharge our water supply.

2: RIVER BOREFIELD

Water is extracted from the Bielsdown and Bellingin River using an infiltration well and specialised bores.

3: WATER TREATMENT

Water is treated to drinking level standards and checked in a laboratory onsite. Samples are also sent away for regular testing.



4. RESERVOIRS

Water is pumped into a number of reservoirs, and supplied to connected residential areas including Dorrig, Bellingin, Fernmount, Raleigh, Repton, Mylestom and Urunga.



5. SEWAGE TREATMENT

After use, waste water is sent to a Sewage Treatment Plant in Dorrig, Bellingin or Urunga. It is screened, cleaned and UV-treated to get rid of harmful contaminants.



6. RIVER

After being extracted, treated, used, and treated again, our water goes all the way back to where it came from - the river. Regular testing is done to ensure that all water meets strict EPA guidelines. Water quality data is available on Council's website.

