



# SWEP

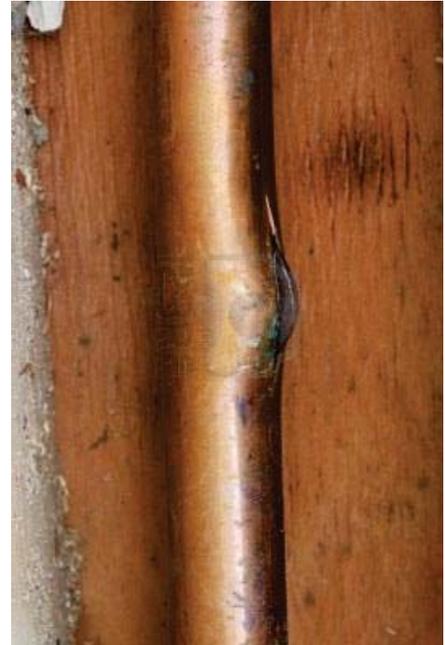
SCHOOLS WATER  
EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

*Schools finding leaks*

## CASE STUDY - WODONGA SENIOR SC

When John McVean the Business Manager at Wodonga Senior Secondary College registered for the Schools Water Efficiency Program (SWEP) it's fair to say he had little idea as to what would unfold over the following days.

After the installation of data loggers, the SWEP team monitor the water consumption at each school to determine if there are any technical issues with the data loggers. Within two days of the installation at Wodonga Senior Secondary College it was obvious there was a substantial issue, the school had a leak of approximately 1,200 litres per hour or 20 litres per minute.



Confirming all technical possibilities had been eliminated the SWEP team contacted John to discuss this alarming water usage. With no notable evidence of excessive usage such as broken toilet, wet concrete or muddy patches on the school ovals John was at a loss to explain the incredible spike in the schools water usage.

John conducted a leak test by recording the reading on the schools water meter at the end of a school day and compared that to the meter reading the following morning. The volume of water recorded by the meter matched the data delivered by the data loggers, confirming that the school indeed had a significant leak.

Weekend maintenance staff identified a small crack in a pressurised boiler pipe that ran under the school buildings. The result was thousands of litres of water being leaked into the ground under the school. With no easy way of visibly verifying this leak, it could have continued for quite some time.

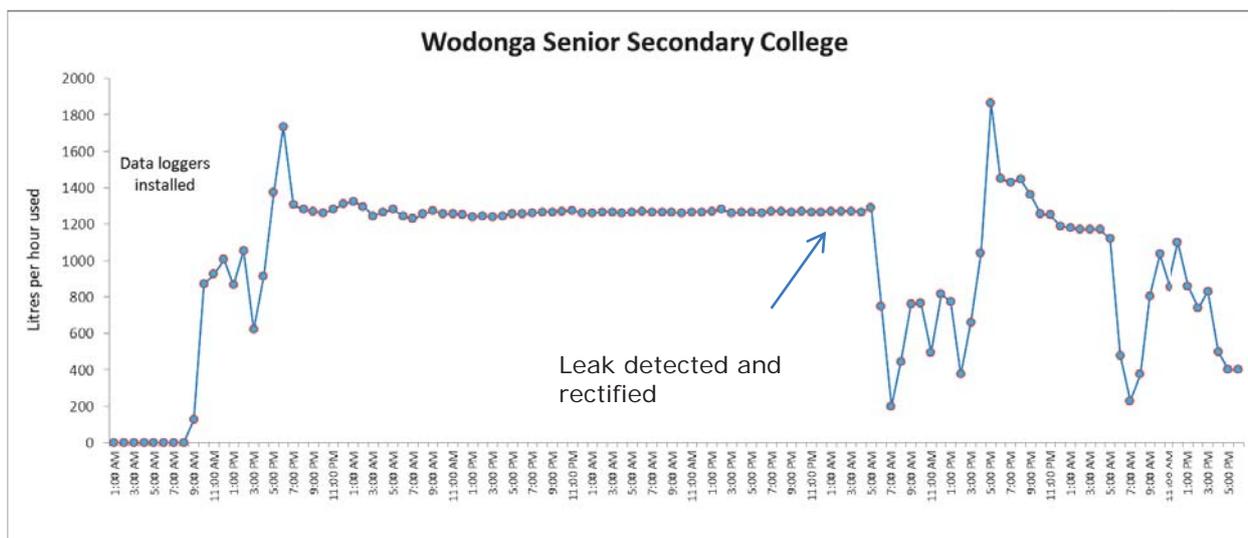
*"Using SWEP we were able to detect and act on this leak quickly where we wouldn't have known about it previously until we received our water bill and been shocked by the cost of our water use."*

*John McVean - Wodonga Senior SC*

The immediate repair of this boiler pipe has reduced the schools leakage by an incredible 90% and despite working with infrastructure that's more than 50 years old John intends to reduce the schools water losses to as close to zero as he possible can.

*"Having been connected to SWEP for less than a month, it's reasonable to say that we've saved the cost of the program already. It's highlighted to us the importance of properly inspecting our facilities regularly."*

*John McVean - Wodonga Senior SC*



Graph showing Wodonga Senior SC usage before, during and after leak

## Who provides SWEP to schools?

SWEP is delivered and funded by the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Yarra Valley Water is the project manager for the program on behalf of the Victorian Government.

## How to register

Visit [www.myswep.com.au](http://www.myswep.com.au) to register your school for SWEP or to find out more.