

## ***Our Goals***

Our business relies on two key resources – water and energy. We take a proactive approach to managing these in order to mitigate risk and capture opportunities both for our company and the environment.

Our Board mandated [Health, Safety & Environment Policy](#):

- Establishes our vision of zero harm to the environment and a focus on resource conservation, including water;
- Commits us to meet or exceed water use guidelines wherever we operate;
- Commits us to work with stakeholders, including supply chain partners, to achieve best practice water resource management, and
- Commits us to demonstrate “thought leadership” in water management and policy.

Foster’s doesn’t pretend to have all the answers in this vital but complex field. We acknowledge that better managing water is a long-term effort, which requires collaboration and continuous improvement. We are genuine in our commitment to these, and to exceeding best practice water management wherever possible.

## ***Our Actions***

Our Board mandated [Health, Safety & Environment Policy](#) requires us to seek continuous improvements in our management of water. The following is a selection of practical examples of how we are doing this.

- Carlton and United Beverages (now Foster’s Australia) has run a water conservation program since 1998, as part of our participation in the Australian Greenhouse Challenge program. As a result, water efficiency has improved 2.5%, year on year, for the last six years.
- As part of the upgrade of the Yatala Brewery in South East Queensland, we have reduced the ratio of hectolitres of water used per hectolitre of beer produced to 2.2, down from 4.3 two years ago. Global best practice is between four and five hectolitres of water per hectolitre of beer.
- Through a partnership with the Australian Conservation Foundation, Foster’s invests in research to better understand the impacts of viticulture on biodiversity and water quality. Meanwhile, “Foster’s Footprint” is a key research project which is developing a set of measurements to define best practice in environmental viticulture. This will give us the ability to verify our progress against best practice for the first time.
- Our wineries are actively involved in water conservation, examples include:
  - i. Innovative storm water catchment and waste water treatment facilities are in place at our Wolf Blass Winery in the Barossa Valley (South Australia), and at our Lindemans winery at Karadoc (Victoria);
  - ii. The design of our Napa Bottling Centre (California) will include “dry floor technology” to eliminate water waste, and advanced recycling techniques to decrease water use by up to 50 percent;

- iii. We have recently undertaken a major riparian restoration project on the Russian River at our Asti Winery and restored a creek at Benoist Vineyard (California), while in South Australia we have donated a gigalitre of our water entitlement to the threatened Markaranka Wetlands on the Murray River.
- Our Californian vineyards participate in the local Sustainable Winegrowing Practices program. Those in the Napa Valley are being certified under the “Fish Friendly Farming Scheme” to protect local waterways, and our Sonoma County vineyards are certified under the Green Business Program.
- A dedicated Foster’s Production / Viticulture Wastewater Working Group explores scope for further improvements in water use, including sustainable re-use of winery waste water in company vineyards.
- Our [Foster’s community program](#) supports our focus on water in a number of ways:
  - i. Foster’s partnership with Conservation Volunteers Australia. The partnership aims to improve the health of our inland waterways, in particular around key Foster’s sites (breweries, wineries and offices);
  - ii. Foster’s funds grassroots environment programs through local community sponsorships. For example, we recently funded the Barossa Bush Gardens group (South Australia), who rehabilitate local waterways through the propagation and planting of native plants.
- Foster’s people are also active in external environment fora to share and extend our expertise. Bodies in which we are active include the environment committees of industry associations (Winemaker’s Federation of Australia, Australian Industry Group, Australian Food & Grocery Council) and government mandated bodies (Sustainability Victoria, local catchment management and water authorities).
- Foster’s looks for opportunities to extend our obligations on water through the supply chain, for example through our (Australian) Grower Relations Handbook.