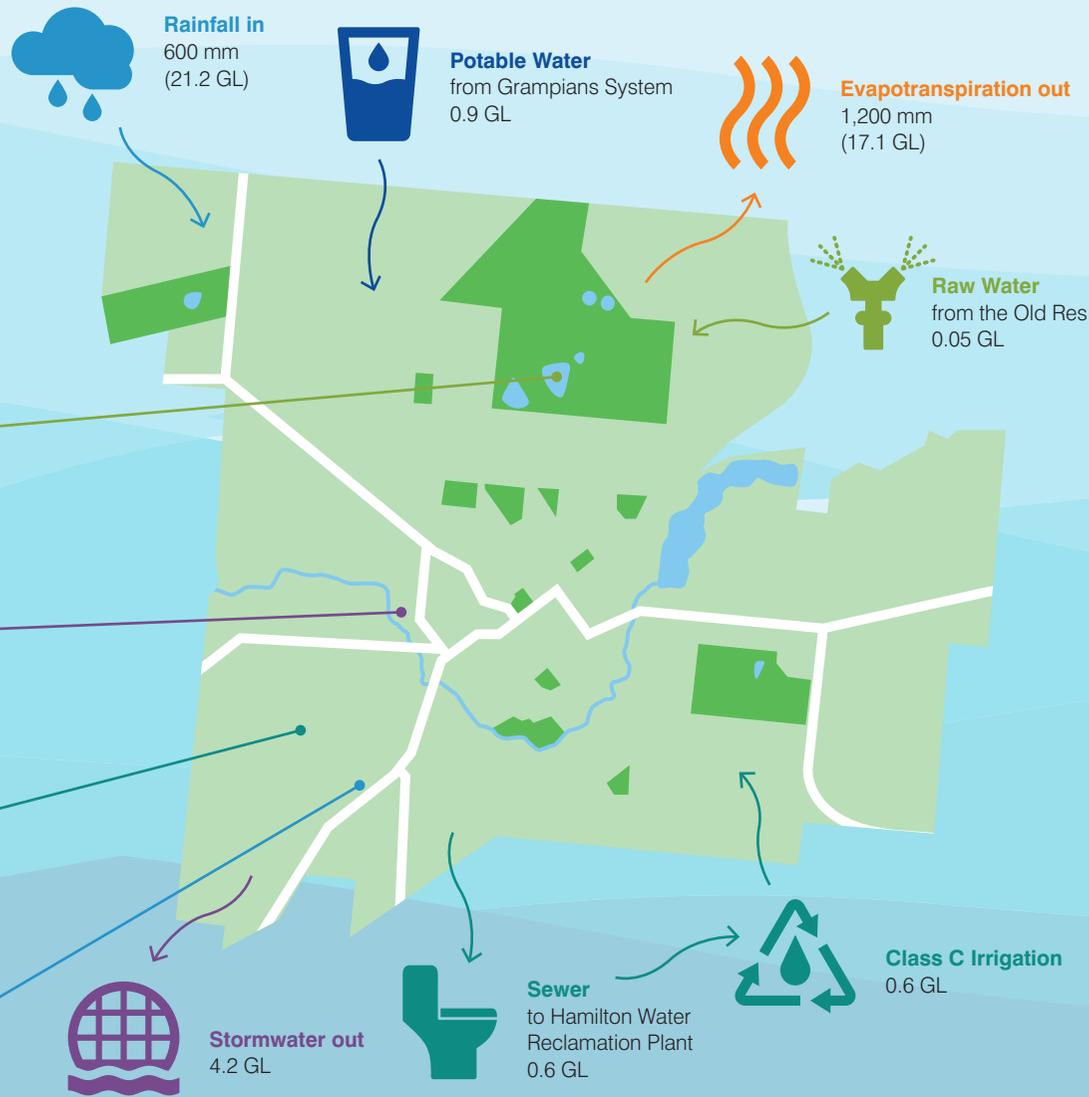


HAMILTON INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Hamilton is the largest town in Southern Grampians Shire in Western Victoria. The Grange Burn and Lake Hamilton are significant natural and recreational assets in the centre of Hamilton, that is served by potable, recycled and raw water supplies giving Hamilton the opportunity of becoming a truly water sensitive town.

TODAY'S WATER CYCLE



Drinking water: Hamilton's water comes from the high quality, high security Grampians water supply system. The system is climate dependent and will be impacted by climate change.

Raw water: Is stored in the 'Old Res' and used to irrigate Pedrina Park, Hamilton Showgrounds, Hamilton College, Melville Oval and the Hamilton Botanic Gardens. Could it irrigate other areas too?

Stormwater: 70% of the urban catchment is treated by the Grange Burn Wetland. Other stormwater enters Lake Hamilton and the Grange Burn untreated.

Recycled water: Hamilton sewage treatment plant produces Class C Water that irrigates the Hamilton Golf Club, ovals, parks, tennis courts and pastures.

Rainwater: Large-scale rainwater harvesting already takes place at the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange. There are more opportunities to harvest rainwater off large roofs.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

The IWM Plan identified 12 opportunities. These four are the highest priority:

1. Roof water harvesting for HILAC (rainwater): HILAC is a high water user. There is an opportunity to harvest and store rainwater from the nearby showgrounds roof for use in the HILAC pool, saving up to 3 ML per year.

2. Recycled water for horticulture (recycled water): Excess recycled water could provide a reliable water source for horticultural trials at or near the Hamilton treatment plant site, or at Old Monivae.

3. Getting more out of the Old Res (raw water): The Old Res system can be operated more efficiently and has the capacity to irrigate more open space and trees in the Hamilton CBD, creating green and cool open spaces and streetscapes without using potable water.

4. Protecting Lake Hamilton (stormwater): Both the upstream catchment and urban areas contribute to water quality problems in Lake Hamilton. There is an opportunity to use water sensitive urban design and rural catchment management to reduce nutrient loads in the lake.