

The Manly Council Filtered Water Sustainability Initiative

Manly Council Filtered Water Project:

In August 2008, Manly Council became the first council in Australia to provide filtered water refill stations to the general public for drinking and refilling bottles.

Their aim was to combat climate change and decrease their impact on the environment by reducing the consumption of bottled water and its associated waste in their community.

To achieve this, Manly Council set out to encourage its residents and visitors to reuse and refill their water bottles instead of discarding them and purchasing new ones.

The Filtered Water Refill Stations were a practical and deliverable solution that the council could easily implement.

With an existing network of water supply pipes and drinking fountains, incorporating the Filtered Water Refill Stations was a simple way the Council could demonstrate their commitment to helping the environment.



photo:-Manly Refill Station fitted to existing fountain

Plastic Water Bottle Waste and its Negative Impact on our Environment:

Former Mayor of Manly - Dr Peter Macdonald stated: *"From the point of production to their ultimate disposal, water bottles have a significantly negative impact on our environment."*

"The production, transportation, refrigeration and disposal of water bottles is a massive waste of our natural resources and leads to excessive greenhouse gas emissions; not to mention the obvious pollution they create in our local environment."



photo:- Waste water bottles at Manly Cove Beach

Research done by Manly Council found that 75% of containers in the waste stream were water bottles.

Not only is their waste an issue, according to the Department of Environment and Climate Change, each litre bottle of water takes 200mL of oil to produce, package, transport and refrigerate.

As a result, at least 50 million litres of oil is used in the manufacture and distribution of bottled water in Australia every year.

Achieving Environmental Sustainability

Since the implementation of 6 Filtered Water Refill Stations, Manly Council have estimated that they have prevented 150,000 litres of water from being purchased.

This equates to approximately 250,000 plastic water bottles they have stopped entering the waste stream.

With such positive results, Manly Council has shown that they have the ability to maintain and preserve the qualities that are valued in their community.

Due to the success of this initiative, the Council has implemented an ongoing program to provide more Filtered Water Refill Stations in their local area.

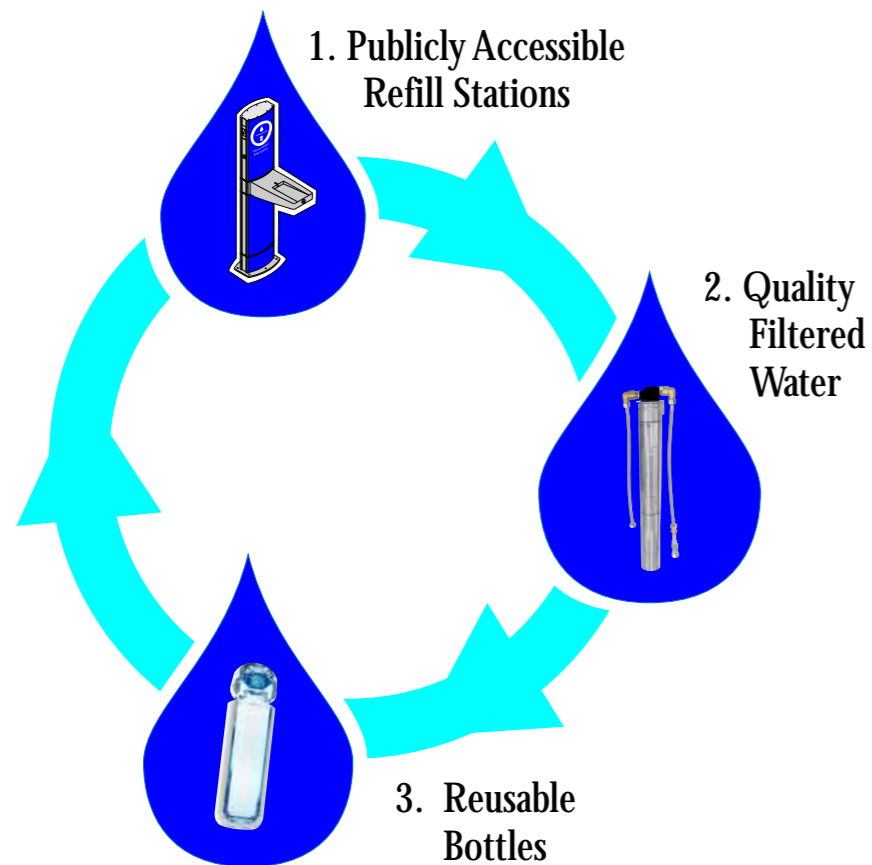
Manly Council are currently in the process of installing 10 *aquafil* Filtered Water Refill Stations along the Manly beachfront.

Manly Council have been proactive in creating a better environment today, for a more sustainable tomorrow...

It also encourages other Councils, Governments and communities to implement the same initiative for a better future.

A Deliverable Solution: Filtered Water Refill Stations & Reusable Bottles

THE REFILL EQUATION

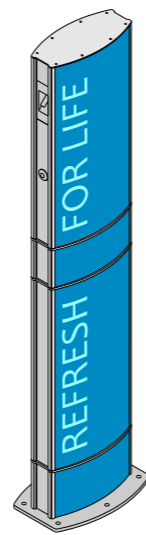


1. **Provide** Publicly Accessible Water Refill Stations
2. **Produce** Quality Filtered Water
3. **Promote** the use of Reusable Bottles

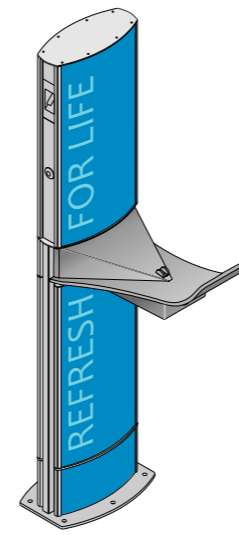
The Refill Station

The refill station is a purpose built product designed to incorporate the filter unit, water dispensing points and promotional signage in one complete unit.

Manly Council, in the initial program, installed refill stations for use in conjunction with existing fountains. In their continuing program, a purpose built product has been designed to include a water fountain. This will also minimise street clutter.



Refill Station
with Water Bottle Filling Dispensers



Refill Station
with Water Bottle Filling Dispensers &
Drinking Fountain

In order to make this initiative effective and create public awareness, it is essential to install these stations in public areas with good patronage. Such areas include parks, malls, beachfronts, golf courses, marinas, public wharfs, cycleways and public institutions.

The Culligan Water Filter Unit

Providing filtered water is an essential part of the initiative. Research has shown that many people drink bottled water because they believe it is cleaner and safer than tap water.

A significant portion of the population will no longer drink straight tap water. Reasons for this include concerns about ingesting chlorine, taste issues, and the successful marketing of bottled water.

The filter is a 0.5 micron 'Absolute Filter'. This filter delivers high quality water from the first drop to the very last drop. The water stops flowing when the filter has expired.

The Reusable Bottle

There are many reusable bottle varieties that can be purchased from a wide range of sources.

A proactive alternative is the NEW Culligan Water foldable bottle. Apart from being smart and functional it is a means to promote the initiative. Councils can publish their logo and inform the community of what they are actively doing today to help provide a sustainable tomorrow.

For more information on this solution please contact Arrow Alpha Industries (02) 9737 0022.

