

# Understanding your landscape levy

Northern and Yorke Landscape Board

With the establishment of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* (the Act), the NRM levy is now known as the landscape levy.

The landscape levy is paid by ratepayers across South Australia, recognising that all landowners play a central role in enjoying, protecting and managing our state's landscapes. It's not a new levy set by government, but it has been renamed and improved to help fund the operations of the state's regional landscape boards (previously known as NRM boards). The landscape levy will continue to be raised and collected by your local council, while water levies on water licenses and allocations will still be collected by the Department for Environment and Water.

A key priority of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board is to support local communities and landowners to be directly responsible for sustainably managing their region's landscapes with an emphasis on land and water management, pest animal and plant control, and biodiversity. This includes providing greater funding and partnership opportunities with local community organisations to deliver on ground works and projects.

## Changes to the Northern and Yorke region boundary

From 1 July 2020, nine landscape regions replaced eight NRM regions, which means that some landowners now reside in a different regional boundary. If you're a resident within The Barossa Council, Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council, Adelaide Plains Council or Goyder Regional Council, welcome to the Northern and Yorke region.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why is the landscape levy included on my council rates notice?

As required by the Act, your council continues to collect this levy on behalf of the State Government and the landscape boards to help fund management of our landscapes. Stronger measures are now in place to ensure councils are not left out of pocket for unpaid levies.

### Will the boundary changes affect my levy amount?

The impact of boundary changes on land levies is being managed through a levy transition scheme. For 2020/21, council contributions are set with 2019/2020 and adjusted by CPI. This will allow for consistency in the levy rates paid by ratepayers, noting that changes to land values and the number of rateable properties also influence council contributions and levy rates.

### How will my levy be spent?

Landscape levies help to manage the health of our water resources and soil, reduce the impact of pest plants and animals and conserve native vegetation and coastal habitats. Part of the levy also funds the Grassroots Grants program to help communities play a greater role in managing the region's natural resources.

## Enquiries

For landscape levy enquiries, please contact the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:

Call (08) 8841 3400

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