



BREMERTON

ESTD 1988

OUR FAMILY IS COMMITTED TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



*It's our life.*

[WWW.BREMERTON.COM.AU](http://WWW.BREMERTON.COM.AU)

# ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTION

The Bremerton management team and the Willson family have invested a lot of time, research and money as how to best manage our vineyards and the environment to help Bremerton maintain a sustainable future. We are constantly investigating the ways to reduce both heat and water stress in our vineyards including exploring different soil coverage and canopy management.

Our viticulture team is monitoring the ongoing workings in the vineyard on a daily basis and as the season unfolds we adjust our methods accordingly. We have completed an under vine mulching program for over 80 ha of vineyard using fully organic composted products. It is banded under vine at approximately 100 cubic metres per hectare (8 - 10 cm thick). The mulch will help maintain soil temperature, increase microbiological activity, increase water holding capacity and most importantly reduce evaporation. We are experimenting with two types of mulch to be assured of the correct decision for the long term future.

In the mid rows between the vines, we sow a cover crop of Triticale with organic fertilizer (high in carbon) to increase our organic carbon levels and soil microbiology. In September the cover crop is crimp rolled creating a blanket of organic material that will prevent soil moisture evaporation and reduce weed germination. We believe that for the health of our vines and soils and the ultimate health of the environment, mulching is the best option. Another reason for rolling in September is to help avoid frost damage. We have also commenced a five year program to replace above ground irrigation dripper tube with sub surface irrigation.



We aim for our practices to be contributing to the viticulture appellation of Langhorne Creek being acknowledged as Australia's most efficient water using region. As users of supplementary water for our vines we are accredited under the Angus Bremer Catchment Board which is recognised worldwide as the benchmark accreditation scheme for irrigation best practices and has its own Environmental Stewardship.

At our Matilda Plains winery we are in the final planning stages of implementing a 'zero footprint' water initiative whereby the vineyard surrounding the winery will only be watered by treated winery waste water, via a man made wetland that will also become a habitat for local wildlife.

Bremerton has appointed its first environmental officer who will work with all aspects of the business including further development of a strategy to allow Bremerton to become a totally carbon neutral / positive operation. These initiatives will place Bremerton at the forefront to meet any future environmental requirements and hopefully they will have a positive impact on our wines of the future.

*cheers!*

*Rebecca & Doug*

# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Bremerton is committed to managing all aspects of our operations in an environmentally responsible manner at all times. We care about the environment, and we ask our customers to do the same. To ensure environmentally responsible behaviour is accepted as an integral part of our operations.

We specifically commit to:

- Establish an Environmental Management System in order to help systematically reduce our impacts on the environment
- Prevent pollution occurring from our activities and operations
- Conduct operations in compliance with local environmental regulations and legislation
- Communicate this policy to our employees and the wider community
- Educate our employees and contractors on their environmental responsibilities and ensure this is integrated into their work practices, training and decision making
- Continuously improve the environmental performance of our company



Since July 2007 there have been several projects undertaken to ensure that this is a “live” policy:

- The provision of increased recycling vessels means that we are recycling more than we have in the past. This has reduced our general rubbish to a minimum, cutting our landfill contribution
- A comprehensive lighting audit has ensured we are using the most energy efficient globes and that lighting is reduced to a minimum, lowering our energy consumption.
- Changes to winery practises have lead to a reduced usage of water and upgrade of our Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- A waste water record has been initiated and we now have documentation that reflects water usage in the winery per month. This varies dramatically depending on the operations that have occurred in a given period and the building of this information will enable us to project and determine our water needs. To be totally self-sufficient and thus no longer drawing on community water is our ultimate goal.
- We have an ongoing commitment to contribute to the establishment of “native corridors” that provide home and refuge to local birds and animals.

Emphasis in Environmental Management lies in the commitment to continuous improvement. Bremerton Wines takes this commitment very seriously and we look forward to reporting back to you in the future of our progress in working towards making a positive change for our environment.

# GREEN CREDENTIALS

## QUICK GUIDE

- ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ✓
- ORGANIC OR IN TRANSITION ✗
- “NO ADDED PRESERVATIVE” WINE PRODUCTION ✓
- SUSTAINABLE VISION ✓
- WATER CONSERVATIVE POLICIES ✓
- RECYCLING OF DRY GOODS ✓
- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ✓
- ACTIONS TO NEUTRALISE CARBON FOOTPRINT ✓



## NATURE CONSERVATION

From its establishment in 1988 Bremerton has been striving to create a sustainable future. The environment that supports us is of immense value and we hope our practises reflect that. As a family owned and run business, our ethos is to pass on our property in an improved environmental position for the next generation of Winemakers and Vignerons. Every year since 1988, our estate has become a richer and greener environment through which the surrounding area benefits. Our participation in a regional environmental risk management program means that we are committed to addressing issues facing our local environment. We have instigated regular meetings with Natural Resource Managers whom set regional goals within the Langhorne Creek Biodiversity Plan that we are obliged to meet. Continual plantings of native species throughout our estate have ensured the development of well established native corridors, essential for our native wildlife as it provides a safe haven for them to inhabit. Our commitment to nature conservation is ongoing and is an area of Environmental Management we pride ourselves on.

## HOW ORGANIC OR BIODYNAMIC ARE WE?

Bremerton utilises best practice organic principles without certification. We believe that an integrated pest management system utilising naturally occurring biological systems is more sustainable. Regional Best Management Practice (BMP) requires us to undertake an Integrated Pest & Weed Management system audit annually. Our viticultural team is committed to maintaining sustainable vineyards for Bremerton. We only treat the vines when required. As part of our sustainable viticulture plans we undertake continual mulching under vine and sow cover crops and permanent swards to enrich our soil, encourage biodiversity and reduce evaporation. Our Matilda Plains Vineyard has sub surface irrigation and we have introduced mechanical weed removal. These measures further reduce our water usage in the vineyard and the necessity for chemical weed control.

# GREEN CREDENTIALS

## WATER CONSERVATION & WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT

As users of supplementary water for our vines we are accredited under the Angus Bremer Catchment Board which is recognised worldwide as the benchmark accreditation scheme for irrigation best management practises and has its own Environmental Stewardship.

Matilda Plains Winery has now installed large rainwater tanks that will see the winery with the capability of being self-sufficient and reduce its reliance on the River Murray. We maximise our rain harvesting potential by storing rainwater in our tank farm and also by utilising our 12KL ferment tanks for storage during the winter. This water is then UV filtered and utilised in vintage (peak period) and reduces our draw on the River Murray.

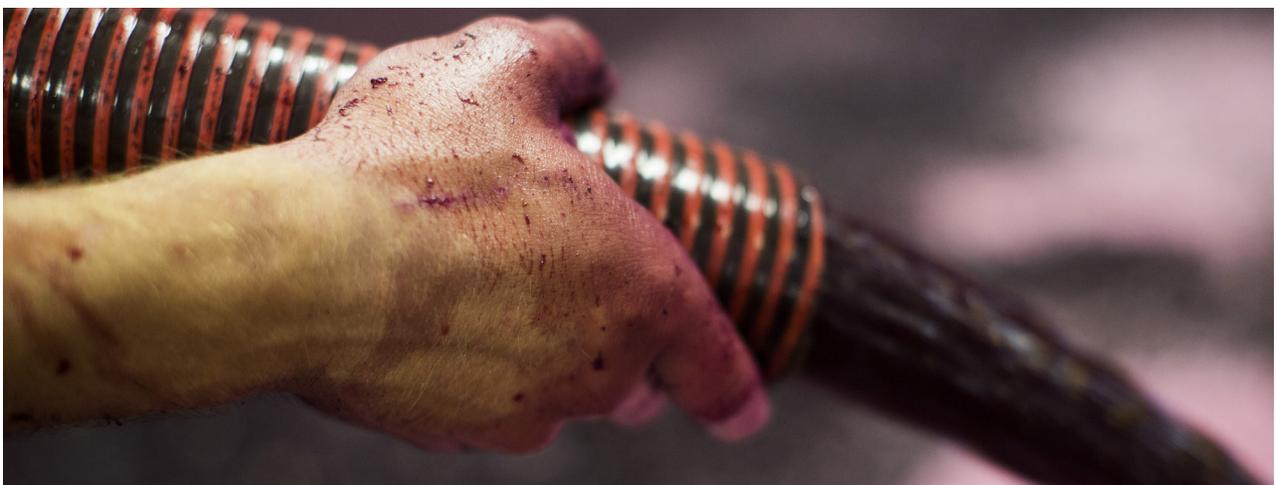
At Bremerton we are at the leading edge of water saving technology with the vineyards being converted from above ground to below ground irrigation, organic mulching to reduce evaporation and the plantation of mid row cover crops and permanent swards.

Our winery has undertaken a comprehensive water audit and in recent years has halved its water output production through the implementation of a water use minimisation plan. This includes simple changes to practices such as using hand held spray guns, water saving barrel washing techniques as well as the introduction of a recirculation cooling unit in our lab which is saving us over 30,000L of water a year.

## CARBON FOOTPRINT

We are currently converting to the use of lighter weight bottles. A local Carbon Audit was conducted last year and we have integrated this into our accounting management. This ensures we are constantly aware of our energy usage and carbon production. We hope that changes to practices throughout the company will be reflected when we complete the next financial years carbon audit.

Participation in a regional Climate Change Risk Management exercise has lead to the development of a BMP for Bremerton. As part of this a comprehensive audit of energy usage at our Matilda Plains Winery has been completed, and systems upgraded to improve our energy efficiency including instillation of a 30kw solar system and full LED lighting upgrade. In addition a 170kw commercial solar plant is being investigated. Reduction in waste water and continual planting of native vegetation ensure that we are we are working towards the neutralisation of our carbon footprint.



# GREEN CREDENTIALS

## RECYCLING & RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

Best Practice Waste Management means that we have limited waste created at Bremerton. All recyclable material is utilised by our local recycling depot including all plastics, glass and cardboard.

The organic grape skins and seeds which are the by-products of winemaking are naturally composted and then used in the vineyards to encourage improved soil health and reduce evaporation. Wine lees are transported to Tarac Technologies, leaders in wine industry waste treatment and re-use of by-products.

For more information on Tarac, visit their website: [www.tarac.com.au](http://www.tarac.com.au)

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Bremerton regularly support charities through sponsorship including Diabetes Australia, Breast Cancer Foundation, local Country Fire Service, Royal Flying Doctor Service and Zonta, a service that works to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. We currently sponsor .....

## OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS

Bremerton's winemaking team have been working on wine parcels with no added sulphur. The 2018 vintage will see the release of our first "Special Release No Added Preservative" Shiraz. We have also been converting the products used in the winery to allow for Vegan friendly wine production. Visit our website for details on all our vegan friendly wines [www.bremerton.com.au](http://www.bremerton.com.au)

Bremerton aims to continue to be at the forefront of dealing with environmental issues within our industry. We take pride in remaining up to date with environmental best management practise and ensure this though the ongoing attendance of Forums and Conferences on Environmental Issues.

**BREMERTON**  
ESTD 1988

*It's our life.*

Langhorne Creek is less than an hour from Adelaide via Mt Barker. If you're travelling from the eastern states it's a great alternative route to Adelaide, the Fleurieu Peninsula or even Kangaroo Island.

### BREMERTON WINES

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## LET'S BE SOCIAL

A great way to keep connected with all things Bremerton is by checking in with us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter! You will find daily stories, pics and updates on all things happening around cellar door and at the winery.

Simply search for Bremerton to stay up to date.

Thank you to all our customers who have reviewed their Bremerton visit on Trip Advisor. Check it out at [www.tripadvisor.com.au](http://www.tripadvisor.com.au) and add your review.

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