

ON-SITE WASTEWATER



NEXT GREAT CITY

INFORMATION FOR PLUMBERS

Wastewater approval documentation

It is an offence to undertake wastewater works without an approval granted by the relevant authority. The plumbing contractor is responsible for ensuring any wastewater works undertaken are in accordance with the approval for the property. The plumbing contractor should obtain a copy of the following documents from the building contractor or the owner prior to undertaking work:

- The approval document
- Approved Council-stamped underfloor plumbing and site plans
- Council-stamped engineers report (where applicable)

Do not rely on plans from the building contractor that do not have a Council approval stamp, as the approved design may vary considerably from the initial design.

Where installations vary significantly from approved plans, you may be required to reinstall the work, or face financial penalties

Inspection notification requirements

The City of Playford requires, as a condition of wastewater works approval, that notification of installation be given in writing 24 hours in advance. Notifications can be sent via email to eho@playford.sa.gov.au

The booking should include the following information:

- The location of installation
- The requested time of inspection
- The type of work being undertaken
- The name and contact details of the person responsible for the works.

A phone call will only be accepted to notify of a change in inspection time where a written notification has been submitted. Your written notification to Council is your documented proof of compliance with that condition. It is a condition of wastewater approval that wastewater works be inspected prior to backfill.

Failure to notify of wastewater works installation is a breach of a prescribed expiable condition, to which a \$315 expiation is applied for each offence.

Inspection times should be scheduled to coincide with the following situation:

- Underfloor plumbing / main drain: Work completed, undergoing water/pressure test, ready for backfill.
- Septic tank / pump sump / aerobic system: Upon completion of installation and connection to main drain, in process of filling tank with water, prior to backfill.
- Subsurface soakage system with plastic tunnel: Upon installation of plastic tunnel and associated plumbing, with base of trench or bed exposed prior to backfill of aggregate. Where multiple trenches or beds are installed, one trench or bed must be observed prior to backfill with aggregate. If other trenches or beds are installed prior to inspection, they must be partially exposed to show geotextile fabric.
- Subsurface soakage system with perforated pipes: Upon installation of the perforated pipe(s) on the aggregate, prior to further backfill. Where multiple trenches or beds are installed, one trench or bed must be observed prior to backfill with aggregate. If other trenches or beds are installed prior to inspection, they must be partially exposed to show geotextile fabric.
- Surface irrigation system / Subsurface dripper irrigation: Upon completion of the installation of the pipework and componentry of the irrigation system, prior to backfill.

It will no longer be acceptable to backfill work prior to the scheduled inspection time.

Council's Environmental Health Officers will endeavour to inspect your work at the requested time. If you receive a call from Council indicating that an inspection will not be undertaken, you may backfill on completion of the work - otherwise you may proceed with backfilling your work 10 minutes after the requested time of inspection.

If you are scheduled to complete the work prior to the scheduled time, please contact Council's Environmental Health Team to negotiate a change in inspection time - do NOT backfill unless advised to.

Flexible connection and expansion joints

Soil conditions for each property are assessed by a suitably-qualified expert (usually a geotechnical engineer) to determine, in part, the requirements for flexible connections and expansion joints on the main drain and associated connections to branch drains.

Prior to installing the main drain, ensure you have received information from the expert specifying the layout of flexible connections and expansion joints. Any queries should be referred to the expert. Where flexible connections and expansion joints are required, a condition will be specified in the wastewater approval document issued by Council.

'Aussie Connectors' and similar devices are not approved for use as flexible connections / expansion joints.

Certificates of Compliance and as-constructed drawings

It is a condition of wastewater approval, and a requirement of the *Wastewater Regulations*, that a suitably-qualified person who undertakes wastewater works must submit a Certificate of Compliance (CoC) and as-constructed drawings to the Council within 28 days of the completion of works*.

NB: *Regulation 11(2) of the *South Australian Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013* states that a CoC must be provided to Council within 28 days after completing the work. If you are installing further works on the site (including second fix plumbing) the CoC is expected within 28 days of completion of all plumbing works on the site for which you are responsible.

Installation of irrigation for Aerated Wastewater Treatment Systems

The requirement for wastewater works to be undertaken by a suitably-qualified person, as defined in the *Regulations*, now extends to the installation of irrigation areas.

Surface and subsurface irrigation areas associated with an Aerated Wastewater Treatment System will need to be installed as per the wastewater engineer's specifications, and any modifications to the approved design will need to be discussed and approved by the engineer who designed the system.

A CoC and as constructed drawing will also need to be issued to Council within 28 days of completion.

Failure to comply is an expiable offence. If you cannot meet this requirement for any reason, please advise the Inspecting Officer or contact Council so that a mutually agreeable outcome can be arranged,

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