

FACT SHEET

GUIDELINES TO INSTALLING A SEPTIC TANK & HOLDING TANK



Information about the Septic Tank and Holding Tank System

A holding tank system for a dwelling utilises a septic tank to treat effluent which flows into a holding tank. The holding tank must be pumped out by a licenced contractor and the contents removed from the site and disposed of in accordance with the contractor's licence conditions.

Holding tanks will only be allowed where there are no other options available for an on-site wastewater system. If you are unsure, please contact Council's Environmental Health Officers

The minimum capacity of a holding tank is 4000L and they must have an audible and visible alarm located in either the kitchen or laundry to let the owner know when the tank is nearing full capacity and must be pumped out.

A copy of the cartnote when the holding tank is pumped out must be provided to Council.

Please note:- Persons who undertake development requiring on-site containment for off-site disposal by tanker to an approved disposal site are required to:

- inform all users of the premises of the requirements;
- in the event of sale of the premises, to advise would-be purchasers of the requirements and obligations;
- ensure that the system does not overflow or discharge any of the sewerage or effluent, treated effluent or reclaimed water onto the site or elsewhere except as approved;
- inform all users that any discharge from the system could result in penalties of up to \$30,000 or if the discharge is to a water supply (eg River Murray and lakes) up to \$60,000.

Information to be provided to Council to obtain approval

An application form

You will need to complete an "Application for an On-site Wastewater Works Approval" form that is available from the Council Offices based at Mannum, Morgan and Cambrai or online at www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au. The application form **must** be completed and signed by both the owner and applicant.

Application Fee

An application fee is required. Fees can be found on Council's website at www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au or by contacting the Council office. This application fee covers the examination of the application to ensure it complies with the current legal regulations, the approval and inspections of both pre-approval and of the installed system.

Site Layout Plan

A detailed site layout plan drawn to scale of 1 in 500 must be included with your application that details:

- block dimensions;
- contours indicating natural ground fall;
- proposed location of the building and all other structures including sheds, swimming pools and paving etc;
- position of the proposed septic tank, and the holding tank showing all setback distances from boundaries, buildings including sheds and paving, septic tank and holding tank and swimming pools.;
- details of any site modification eg benching, cutting and filling.;
- details and location of any diversion trenches to collect surface or migrating subsurface water;
- details and location of storm, surface and roof water disposal;

Contact

PO Box 28
Mannum SA 5238
T: (08) 8569 0100
E: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au

Principal Office

49 Adelaide Road
Mannum SA 5238

Cambrai Office

Main Street
Cambrai SA 5353

Morgan Office

Cnr Fourth & Eight Streets
Morgan SA 5320

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- details of any well, bore, dam used or likely to be used for human and or domestic use;
- details of any water source used for agricultural, aquacultural or stock purposes;
- details of any water course, identified on a current 1:50 000 Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources topographic map, used or likely to be used for human and or domestic purposes.

Building Layout Plan (Plumbing plan)

A detailed building layout plan drawn to a scale of 1 in 100 must be included with your application that details:

- the position and description of all sanitary fixtures to be connected to the holding tank – e.g. toilets, basin, showers, bath, laundry, kitchen;
- the method of connecting the fixtures to the drainage systems including location of the drains, positions and size of traps – sanitary fixture, floor waste and overflow relief gully, vents and waste pipes;
- whether there is a spa bath that is more than 120 litres or there is a food waste disposal unit installed.

Lodgement of a Wastewater application

Council cannot issue approval until the following information has been submitted:

- a completed application form, signed by the owner and applicant;
- an application fee has been paid;
- a site layout plan;
- a building layout plan detailing all plumbing.

Failure to provide this information will result in delays in approval.

For further information, please feel free to contact Council on 8569 0100.

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