

FACT SHEET

GUIDELINES TO INSTALLING AN AEROBIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM



Information about the Aerobic Wastewater Treatment System

An Aerobic Wastewater Treatment System is a miniature wastewater treatment plant that treats wastewater from the home and is then disposed by droppers or sprinklers to a dedicated irrigation area.

Aerobic systems use oxygen to break down the effluent. An aerator distributes the air to keep a constant supply of oxygen. This water is then disinfected with chlorine so it can be used for irrigation on dedicated landscaped garden areas.

The irrigation area must be installed by a licensed plumber and a certificate of completion and compliance (COC) issued prior to the house being habitated. The irrigation area should be landscaped with plants that are suitable for the transpiration of reclaimed water and be salt and nutrient tolerant.

The occupier of the premises should have received a comprehensive manual on the care, operation and maintenance of the system when it was installed.

As a condition of approval, the occupier of the premises served by an Aerobic system must maintain the system to ensure that recycled water complies with safe water-quality standards. The system must be serviced by an appropriately trained person at the specified intervals as required by the manufacturer.

To ensure that the Aerobic Wastewater Treatment System is working efficiently, the use and discharge of strong alkalis, oils, acids, bleaches, disinfectants, chemical detergents, pesticides and herbicides to the system should be avoided.

If you are unsure of how to maintain your Aerobic Wastewater Treatment System, contact the installer of your system or contact Council's Environmental Health Officer.

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.

Wastewater Engineer's Report

A Wastewater Engineer's report must be provided to determine how big the irrigation area must be. Some soils are high in clay or are rock and may require a larger area. The Engineer will also consider other factors on the allotment such as watercourses and bores and whether there is adequate setback to accommodate an on-site wastewater system.

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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Site Layout Plan

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 Aerobic Wastewater Treatment System and the surface irrigation area showing all setback distances from boundaries, buildings including sheds, paving 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;
- 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 watercourse, identified on a current 1:50 000 Department of Environment and Water topographic map, used or likely to be used for human and or domestic purposes;
- details of the aerobic wastewater system including:
 - location of warning signs;
 - position of irrigation lines.

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 aerobic wastewater treatment system –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.

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

- a completed application form, signed by the owner and applicant;
- an application fee;
- a site layout plan showing the location of the septic tank and soakage system in relation to the dwelling, driveways, boundaries and sheds;
- a Wastewater Engineer's report;
- a building layout plan detailing all sanitary 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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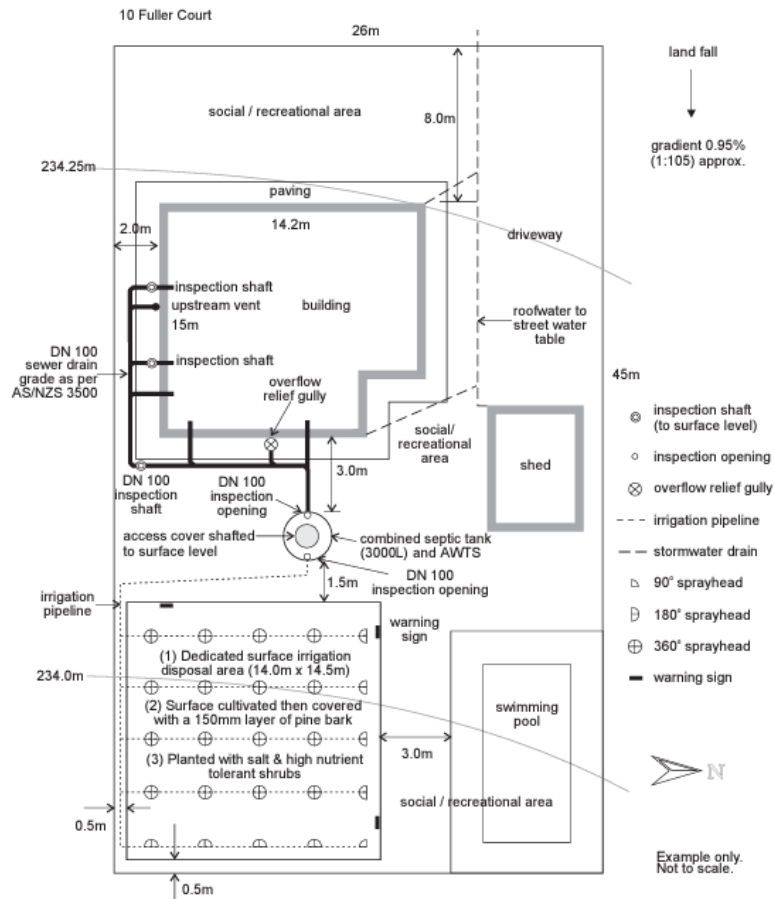
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