

## Fact sheet

# Information for Plumbers: New Requirements Regarding Onsite Wastewater Systems

On 31 May 2013 the South Australian Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013 (The Regulations) and the On-site Wastewater Systems Code (The Code) will replace the current Regulations and The Standard For Construction, Installation and Operation Of Septic Tank Systems In South Australia and its supplements. This fact sheet is directed at plumbers and highlights some important information relating to these legislative changes.

The new Regulations will require persons who install on-site systems to hold the appropriate licences to undertake the work.

### **Installation Approvals in areas regulated by local councils and Department for Health and Ageing (DHA).**

The present system of approvals for on-site systems will continue although more information will be required particularly with regard to site and soil assessments.

Persons will be required to lodge an application on the required form and provide the necessary supporting information to the relevant authority prior to any work being undertaken.

An Engineers' assessment report will be necessary for all sites (including aerobic wastewater treatment systems installations). The full requirements for the report can be found in the On-site *Wastewater Systems Code* and will include:

- > The type of system
- > Site and soil details
- > The size of disposal / recycled water area required (Note that the 200 m<sup>2</sup> irrigation requirement has been removed

with the area to be determined by the engineer)

- > Recreation area requirements

For areas where difficulty will be experienced in an engineer accessing the site, a remote assessment strategy has been formulated. For further information contact the local council or DHA, telephone 8226 7100

### **Certificates of Compliance Required.**

Currently, the Office of the Technical Regulator requires Certificates of Compliance (COCs) for all work carried out in SA Water areas. COCs will now be required to be submitted for all work undertaken in areas where the local council or Department for Health and Ageing (DHA) is the relevant authority. The same COC books are used by both regulators with the information provided on the forms relevant for sanitary plumbing and drainage as well as on-site system installations. As per the present system, Certificate books will be available to be purchased through Service SA Customer Service Centres.



## **Additional installation Requirements**

Due to poor compliance and backflow issues with onsite recycled water irrigation systems, plumbers will also be required to install irrigation systems connected to wastewater treatment systems and provide a certificate of compliance for this work. It is expected that the engineers report will contain information on the irrigation system components.

## **Wastewater System Servicing Requirements:**

Persons servicing wastewater systems (such as aerobic wastewater treatment systems) will be required to complete a training course specified by the DHA. The 3 day course is now being offered by TAFE SA at the Regency Park School of Plumbing. For further information telephone TAFE SA on (08) 8348 4206

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## **For more information**

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