

On-site Wastewater Land Application Areas

General Information

On-site wastewater management systems cover a wide range of technologies and approaches in 2020. There is constant private sector development, with new products coming onto the market all the time.

This fact sheet is intended to clarify and improve understanding of:

- land application areas in the context of installation designs and
- the role of accreditation in that installation design.

On-site wastewater management systems are regulated in Tasmania under the *Building Act 2016*. These installations must be designed for the specific conditions of the site and in accordance with the National Construction Code (NCC). Systems must be:

- designed and installed by Tasmanian licensed practitioners and
- approved through the Plumbing Permit process.

The Director of Building Control requires the treatment process component/s of an on-site wastewater management system to be accredited.

Land Application Area

Generally, this is the area where pre-treated effluent is applied into or onto the land.

The land application component of an installation is specifically designed for the site. This includes consideration of the soil conditions. As a result of the site specific nature of this aspect of system design, land application methods/systems do not need accreditation by the Director of Building Control.

However, land application methods or systems that can achieve secondary treatment water quality, would need to:

- demonstrate compliance with AS1546.3 *On-site domestic wastewater treatment units*, and
 - apply for accreditation as a treatment system in accordance with section 6.1 of the Director's Determination – Accreditation and Maintenance of Plumbing Installations.
- Go to www.cbos.tas.gov.au and read the Determination.

Licensing

All on-site wastewater installations must be designed by a Tasmanian licensed designer, who work within the scope of their licence and area of competence.

AS/NZS 1547:2012 *On-site domestic wastewater management* lists the deemed-to-satisfy design solutions for land application areas. The land application systems/methods or designs that are not listed in AS/NZS 1547 must be completed as performance solutions in accordance with the section 166 of the *Building Act 2016* and the NCC.

An appropriately qualified Engineer, in accordance with the Occupational Licensing (Building Services Work) Determination 2019, must certify performance solutions in Tasmania.

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