



Warringah Council

# Application for Approval to Operate an On-site Wastewater Management System

(Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993)

## Address the application to:

- The General Manager  
Warringah Council  
DX 9118 Dee Why  
or
- Customer Service Centre  
Warringah Council  
Civic Centre  
725 Pittwater Road,  
Dee Why NSW 2099

## If you need help lodging your application:

- Phone our Customer Service Centre on (02) 9942 2111  
or
- come in and talk to us

## Office Use Only

(Keep this box blank)

## Fees for 2005/2006

1. Fees	On-site wastewater approval to operate	\$150.00
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Please note: fees are reviewed annually

## PART 1 Applicant's Details

Applicant's Name

Address

where system will operate

Phone number

Owner's Name

if same 'as above'

Address

mailling address

Phone number

## PART 2 System Type

Type of on-site wastewater management system

Tick a box

- Aerated wastewater treatment system
- Septic tank
- Greywater treatment system
- Wet/dry composting toilet
- Other please specify
- \_\_\_\_\_

Type of on-site wastewater disposal system

Tick a box

- Absorption trench
- Spray irrigation
- Sub-surface irrigation
- Mound system
- Pump-out
- Other please specify
- \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. Declaration

\* This application cannot be accepted unless an approval to install has been issued by Council.

I have an 'Approval to Install an On-site Sewage Management System' for the subject property, approval number (2005/CIR#)\*

I hereby apply to operate an on-site sewage management system on the subject property, and will ensure that the system does not pose a risk to public health or the environment.

Owner/s signature/s

## PART 3 Further Information

### 1. Further Information

Please read

#### **What is an approval to operate?**

Operating a system of sewage management is a prescribed activity under section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 42 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. This means that an approval to operate must be obtained from the local Council.

Unlike Council consent for the development of land, Council approval to operate a system of sewage management is personal and does not run with the land. Approval to operate a system of sewage management is primarily an accountability mechanism between the individual landowner and the Council. Whilst the type and location of system will be considered, it is the activity of sewage management which are the subject of approval.

'Approval to operate a system of sewage management' requires the landowner to take all reasonable steps to minimise transmission of disease, pollution of water and degradation of land as a result of sewage management activity. It requires that the landowner inform the Council of those activities and pay fees to contribute to the Council's costs of managing the cumulative impact of sewage pollution. Once Council has registered all applications for an operating approval the Council is in a position to assess the environmental and health risks posed by individual systems, different types of systems, and cumulative impacts in different areas. This will enable the Council to develop practical programs designed to address different levels of risk and the community's on-site sewage management objectives. Such programs may include better land use planning, community education, support services, supervision and monitoring and will vary depending on the different level of risk.

#### **Is Council approval required for existing systems?**

Landowners with any type of on-site sewage management system are required to obtain a Council operating approval. Councils regulate the installation and operation of on-site sewage management systems under the Local Government Act 1993. Regulations under the Act specify performance standards and require Councils to supervise the operation of on-site sewage management systems.

Councils have always been responsible for the supervision of on-site sewage management systems. The introduction of health and environment performance standards and the requirement to obtain an operating approval will enable Councils to prevent problems rather than just reacting to them and mean that Councils can:

- keep householders aware of operating requirements;
- help them keep their systems well maintained and operating safely;
- monitor and manage the cumulative impact of sewage pollution on the environment; and
- address specific problems before they get out of hand.

#### **Why should on-site sewage system owners have to pay Council for an approval?**

Most of the costs of operating an on-site sewage management system are borne by the landowner, but the Council is responsible for supervision and environmental management. Residents in seweraged areas pay for supervision and environmental management through sewerage charges, which include load based EPA licence fees and other environmental management costs. Septic Safe provides monitoring and assurance of water quality, better control of effluent discharge, supervision of plumbers and service agents, education programs and practical support to assist landowners.

#### **Why is an operating approval required for aerated wastewater treatment systems?**

Aerated wastewater treatment systems (such as 'Envirocycle' and 'Clearwater') use sensitive biological agents, mechanical systems and chemical processes to produce a higher quality effluent than a standard septic tank. Aerated systems must be carefully managed and serviced to keep them working well and safely.

Service agents currently check the internal components, but do not always check the public health and environmental impacts of effluent disposal. Unlike standard septic systems, aerated systems often discharge effluent above ground where it can be easily run off into adjoining land and waterways. Should the treatment process fail, aerated systems can become serious sewage pollution hazards. Such failures are all too common, and may be caused by quite simple factors like using the wrong type of household cleaning agents, leaving the system unattended for extended periods, excess hydraulic loading or depletion of the treatment chemicals. Landowners with aerated systems have to register for Council approval in the same way as other septic system owners.

## PART 4 Office Use Only

Receipt number

Amount

Date received

## PART 5 Methods of Payment

### Council Customer Service Centre

At the Customer Service Centre in the Council Civic Centre. Payment can be made by cheque, credit card (Bankcard, Mastercard, Visa only), cash money order or EFTPOS

### Payment by Mail -Credit cards accepted

Post the payment slip (on the front of Invoice/Statement at the bottom) with your cheque or credit card details to:

Warringah Council  
725 Pittwater Road Dee Why, NSW 2099

### Fax Payment -Credit cards only

Complete the payment slip with your credit card details and fax to: 9942 2606

### Office Use Only

### Credit Card Payment

### Council Payment Fax Number: 9942 2606

Method of Payment

Cashier Code 5300

Order

Amount

Receipt Number:

Date

Please charge my:

Bankcard

Master Card

Visa

**Please note that all Credit Card payments are subject to a 1% service fee.**

Card Number:

Expiry Date

Card Holders Name

Amount

Signature

Phone