

## On-Site Sewage Management Systems Approval and Inspection Program

### Approvals

#### **Approval to Install, Construct or Alter**

Under section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, an Approval to Install, Construct or Alter an On-Site Sewage Management System is required. This application should be lodged at the same time as the application for development approval for a new dwelling. Plans and information about the proposed system will need to be submitted with the application.

#### **Approval to Operate**

Under section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, an Approval to Operate an On-Site Sewage Management System is required. Federation Council will require the owner of the property to apply for approval in the following circumstances:

- For new systems installed – following final inspection by Council;
- For a property that has an existing system that is sold – the new owner may continue to operate the existing system for a period of up to 3 months but an application to Council must be lodged (by the new owner) within 2 months of completion of the sale; and
- Following initial inspection and risk rating by Council – Council will initially inspect each system to check compliance with the performance standards. If your system is satisfactory, you will be issued with an Approval to Operate.

An approval will be issued with an expiry date that is commensurate with the risk rating of the system.

### Inspections

Council has a duty to monitor the performance of existing systems and take action in relation to failing systems which pose a public health or environmental risk.

All systems will be initially evaluated and given a risk rating based its performance, location, design and the local features of the land. It will take approximately

3 years to conduct risk rating inspections of all systems (2019-21).

Septic systems will then be inspected at an ongoing basis at frequency proportionate to their risk as outlined in the table below. The Approval to Operate will also be issued in accordance with the risk posed by the system.

Risk rating	Frequency of Inspections	Approval to Operate Expires
High	Every 2 years	2 years after issue
Medium	Every 5 years	5 years after issue
Low	Every 10 years	10 years after issue

### Fees

- From 1 July 2019, owners of properties that have an on-site sewage management system will be charged a minimal fee (\$20) on their Rates Notice to cover the cost for Council to manage and implement this program.
- An application fee for an Approval to Install, Construct or Alter is applicable (\$50).
- No application fee will apply for an Approval to Operate during the first 3 years while Council is rolling out this new strategy. Fees for an Approval to Operate will commence from 1 July 2021.
- A fee will be applicable for the inspection of medium and high risk sewage systems (\$120). No fee is applicable for the inspection of low risk systems.

### More information

Visit Council's website at [www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au](http://www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au). Alternatively, contact Council on (02) 6033 8999 and ask to speak to the Environmental Health Officer (EHO).