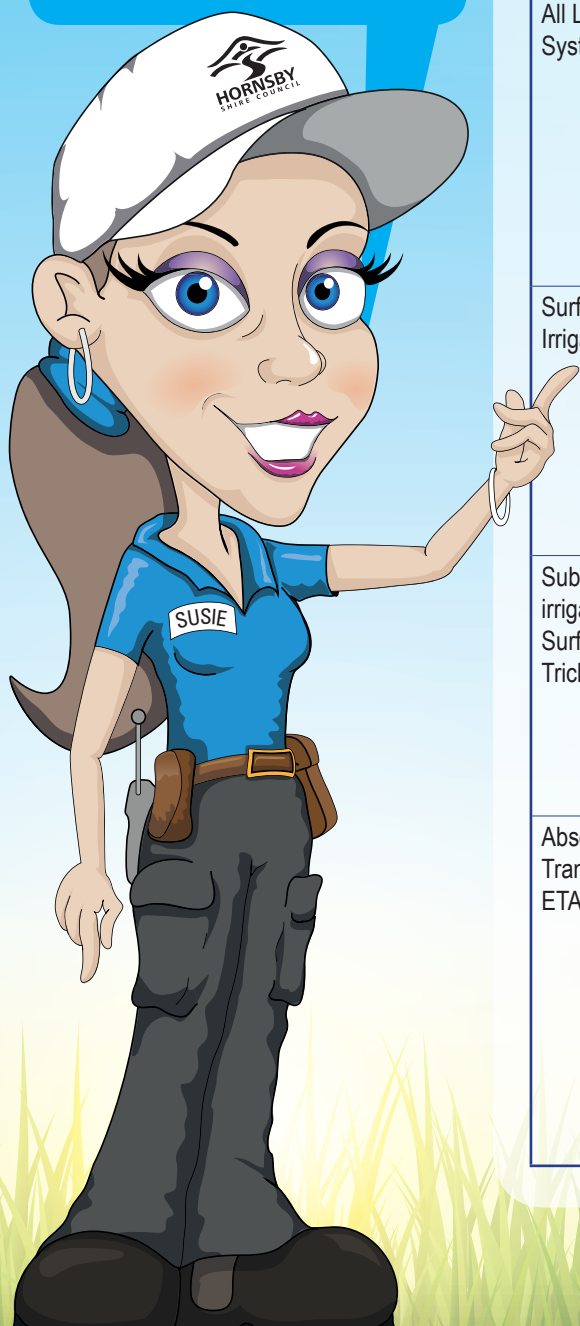


Buffer Distance Requirements for Onsite Sewage Management Systems

Protecting your health and the environment

Buffer distances are the setback requirements (measured in metres) between your effluent disposal area and other features on your site or surrounding area. They are designed to ensure that your on-site sewage management system is operating with minimal impact on public health and the environment. Buffer distances may vary depending on the type of system and level of treatment of the wastewater.

*Do your part -
be Septic smart
and follow these
buffer distances*



BUFFER DISTANCES FOR ON-SITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS		
DISPOSAL AREA	PRIMARY TREATED EFFLUENT	SECONDARY TREATED EFFLUENT
All Land Application Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100m to permanent surface waters (rivers, Streams Lakes etc) 250m to domestic groundwater wells 40m to other waters (dams, intermittent waterways, drainage channels etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100m to permanent surface waters (rivers, Streams Lakes etc) 250m to domestic groundwater wells 40m to other waters (dams, intermittent waterways, drainage channels etc.)
Surface Spray Irrigation	Not Applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6m if area up-gradient and 3m if area down-gradient of driveways and property boundaries 15m to dwellings 3m to walkways & paths 6m to swimming pools 40m to any market garden
Subsurface Drip irrigation, Surface Drip, Trickle Irrigation	Not Applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6m if area up-gradient and 3m if area down-gradient of any property boundary, swimming pool, driveway, path, and buildings 20m if area up-gradient and 10m if area down gradient of any market garden
Absorption Pits, Transpiration Beds, ETA Beds, Mounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12m if area up-gradient and 6m if area down-gradient of any property boundary 6m if area up-gradient and 3m if area down-gradient of swimming pools, driveways and buildings 20m if area up-gradient and 10m if area down gradient of any market garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6m if area up-gradient and 3m if area down-gradient of any property boundary, swimming pool, driveway, path, and building 20m if area up-gradient and 10m if area down gradient of any market garden

Your Septic System is part of your home and your responsibility.

Don't wait until you have issues with your septic system.

Protect your home investment and avoid costly replacement.

- Have your on-site sewage management system inspected by Council.
- Ensure that your Council Approval to Operate a sewage management system is up to date
- Protect your system - follow these top 10 ways to be a good septic owner.



Top 10 Ways to Be a Good Septic Owner

- ✓ Learn the location, layout and maintenance requirements of your on-site sewage management system
- ✓ Have your system de-sludged when necessary, generally every three to five years.
- ✓ Avoid putting bleaches, disinfectants, whiteners, nappy soakers and spot cleaners in large quantities down the drain.
- ✓ Discard non-degradable products in the bin (e.g. nappies, disposable wipes, sanitary products, personal items) instead of flushing them.
- ✓ Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the disposal area and tank.
- ✓ Follow the system manufacturer's directions when using septic tank cleaners and additives.
- ✓ Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system.
- ✓ Keep the grass on your disposal area mowed and keep stock and other animals off it.
- ✓ Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low- or phosphate-free.
- ✓ Have your septic system inspected by Council every two, four or six years according to the risk classification allocated by Council.



Do Your Part - Be Septic Smart!

For more information contact
Hornsby Shire Council on 9847 6666