



# Aerated Waste Water Treatment Systems (AWTS)

## How Do You Set Up Your Aerated Waste Water Treatment Systems (AWTS) Disposal Area?

### Requirements

After you have received Council approval and your Aerated Waste Water Treatment Systems (AWTS) has been installed, you are then required to install the effluent irrigation disposal area. It must be in accordance with your Council approval and South Australian On-Site Wastewater Systems Code. Suitable irrigation disposal is a crucial element to the functioning of the system and must be established prior to use of the system.

The surface irrigation disposal area must be:

- Dedicated to the sole use of receiving reclaimed effluent
- Appropriately landscaped with shrubs and trees
- Designed to discourage pedestrian and vehicle access
- Installed in accordance with Council approved plan's

### Landscaping

- An AWTS disposal area is required to be landscaped, with at least 150mm depth of friable soil and/or pine bark and woodchips.
- Plants in the surface irrigation area must be suitable for the transpiration of reclaimed effluent and be salt and nutrient tolerant.
- Lawned/recreational areas must not be used for surface irrigation disposal purposes.
- The surface irrigation disposal area should be designed so that the area is not pooling or run-off.
- Reclaimed effluent should not be used for vegetable or edible food plants.
- All roof waters must be diverted away from the surface irrigation disposal area.

### Irrigation Layout

- Effluent needs to be dispersed evenly over the entire irrigation area.
- Spray heads must be suitable for reclaimed water. The spray plume must not exceed 360mm above the finished level of the surface irrigation disposal area.
- Spray drift must not leave irrigation area or enter neighbor's properties.
- The surface irrigation disposal area must display sufficient warning signs, with red 20mm lettering to indicate that reclaimed effluent is being used for irrigation.

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*Please note the information contained herein is intended as a guide only.  
Further clarification may be obtained by contacting Council on 8525 3200.*

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## Irrigation Layout Continued:-

- All pipe work must be fixed, suitable for use of reclaimed water and installed as per approved plans.
- Although not a requirement it is best practice to use the internationally recognised purple pipe for the reclaimed water, alternatively reclaimed water tape can be used to indicate pipes using reclaimed water.
- A sub-surface system may be used as an alternative to sprayers, providing no pooling or run-off occurs, and has been designed for your property and approved by Council.
- The number of outlets required is dependent on the type of capacity of the drippers, AWTS pump and landscaping, and applicable engineering advice.

## Setback Distances

- The surface irrigation disposal area must be setback from boundaries, buildings and AWTS wastewater unit:

FLAT SITES (<1:100 SLOPE)	SLOPING SITES (<1:100 SLOPE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 0.5M from boundaries</li><li>✓ 1.5M from buildings</li><li>✓ 1.5m from AWTS waste water treatment unit</li><li>✓ 3.0m from swimming pools</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 0.5m from upslope boundary</li><li>✓ 1.5m upslope from lower boundaries</li><li>✓ 1.5m downslope from buildings</li><li>✓ 3.0m upslope from buildings</li><li>✓ 1.5m from AWTS waste water treatment unit</li><li>✓ 3.0m downslope from swimming pools</li><li>✓ 6.0m upslope from swimming pools</li></ul>

## System Maintenance

- Regular maintenance of sprayers, drippers and mulched area is required to prevent clogging and to ensure correct and maximum efficiency.
- Please note that your maintenance contract may contain further specifications.
- If there are any changes to your maintenance contract you are required to inform Council.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Owners that are responsible for the installation of effluent disposal trenches/surface irrigation area/sub-surface irrigation area, MUST have the system installed according to the engineers report/plan by a registered plumber before occupation.

*Please contact Council or refer to the On-Site Wastewater Systems Code/Australian New Zealand Standard 1547 and AS/NZS 3500 for further information.*

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