

Decommissioning of a Septic Apparatus



Submit this form:

Email: info@capel.wa.gov.au

Post: PO BOX 369, Capel, WA 6271

In person: Shire Administration building, 31 Forrest Road, Capel

Demolition Contractor's Details

Title	Given name(s)	Surname
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Business Name:		
<input type="text"/>		
ABN:		
<input type="text"/>		
Postal Address:		
<input type="text"/>		
Email:		
<input type="text"/>		
Phone:		
<input type="text"/>		

Property Address where apparatus has been decommissioned

Lot No:

House No:

Street Name:

Suburb:

Decommissioning Details

Date Decommissioned:

Declaration

I hereby declare the septic system previously installed at the property above was decommissioned in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 21 of the *Health (Treatment of Sewage and Disposal of Effluent and Liquid Waste) Regulations 1974*, in that,

1. the apparatus was emptied in accordance with Regulation 46 of the above-mentioned Regulations, and the provisions of the *Environmental Protection (Liquid Waste) Regulations 1996* (attach certification from liquid salvage contractor);
2. the apparatus:
 - in the case of the septic tanks or aerobic treatment units, had the base of the tank broken and/or was (tick one):
 - backfilled in situ
 - removed
 - broken up and backfilled

Total number of tanks decommissioned: _____

- the soak wells or leach drains were (tick one):

- backfilled in situ
- removed
- broken up and backfilled

Total number of soak wells/leach drains decommissioned: _____

- the resultant voids backfilled with clean sand and compacted.

Signature of applicant:		Date
Applicant name:		

Checklist

- Certification from liquid salvage contractor attached.

Office Use Only		Records
Date Received:		

Decommissioning A Septic System

Decommissioning your septic system:

To decommission a septic apparatus, the following must take place:

1. The septic apparatus is to be first pumped out by a licensed liquid waste contractor. The contractor will then provide a receipt.
2. The apparatus can then be removed. All components - septic tanks, soak wells and leach drains, must be accounted for and removed. The most effective way to ensure that the entire system is removed is to follow the pipe work from each septic tank and/or soak well until it ends ensuring that there is no outlet to another soak well or leach drain. Soak wells and leach drains may be connected in series and in parallel.
3. The holes left behind must then be backfilled with clean sand. It is also important that the sand be compacted to prevent any possible voids.

Where it is not practicable to completely remove the septic apparatus, then an alternative option is to back fill the entire system (septic tanks, soak wells/leach drains) as it remains in the ground, with clean sand then compacted to prevent any possible voids. Please note that in this case, the base of the septic tanks must first be completely broken to allow proper drainage. However, it is recommended that the septic system be completely removed particularly where there may be an intention to further develop a property. Please note: Alternate effluent disposal systems will need to be completely removed.

Notifying the Shire of Capel:

After a septic apparatus has been decommissioned, you must notify the Shire so that accurate records of systems within the Shire are maintained. These records prevent delays in processing future development applications and may also prevent delays in settlement when selling the property.

For your reference, on the reverse of this fact sheet, is a copy of the decommissioning form that must be filled out notifying the Shire of decommissioning works. This form is to be filled out by the contractor/person who carried out the works and must indicate the number of septic tanks and soak wells and/or leach drains that were removed. The form is to be returned to the Shire with a copy of the liquid waste receipt supplied by the liquid waste contractor as evidence of the pumping out of the system.

Timeframe - decommissioning:

The Shire of Capel recommends that once connection to sewer has been made, any septic system be decommissioned as soon as possible, as septic systems can collapse without warning. Legislation requires that the apparatus must be decommissioned within 60 days of a change of use or ownership of the premises, or where foundations for a building are to be built closer than 1.2m to an apparatus or where a building is proposed above an apparatus.

If you wish to carry out decommissioning works or require more information, please contact an Environmental Health Officer on (08) 97270 222 during office hours.