

Water Quality Guideline

Guidelines for the carting of recycled water

Recycled water can be used for a variety of purposes including agricultural and municipal irrigation to reduce the demand on freshwater supplies.

Recycled water cartage is subject to approval under the South Australian Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations to ensure that the transport and use of recycled water does not result in a risk to health.

Recycled water guidelines

The South Australian Recycled Water Guidelines were developed to provide guidance on the best practice use and management of recycled water in South Australia. These guidelines are intended to be used in conjunction with the Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling which provide the authoritative reference for the supply, use and regulation of recycled water schemes. A risk management framework is described for recycled water usage.

Recycled water cartage

Carting of drinking water is regulated by the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2001*. The Act does NOT apply to cartage of non-drinking water including recycled water.

Recycled water cartage is subject to approval under the South Australian Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations to ensure that the transport and use of recycled water does not result in a risk to health.

Prohibited uses of recycled water

Recycled water **cannot** be used for:

- ✘ Drinking
- ✘ Uses inside the home
- ✘ Filling swimming or spa pools

Recycled water providers

Mawson Lakes and Glenelg to Adelaide Parkland (GAP) recycled water is the highest quality recycled water available in South Australia and is appropriate for:

- > Watering gardens, lawns and edible plants (must be washed before eating)
- > External washing of buildings
- > Car washes
- > Storage at a residential property (secondary storage)
- > Other uses may be possible after consultation and approval by the Department for Health and Ageing

Other Treatment Plants may provide commercial access to their recycled water. However, applications for approval to cart and use this recycled water will be considered by the Department for Health and Ageing on a case-by-case basis to ensure public health is protected.



Recycled water cartage vehicles / containers

Vehicles or containers used for the transport or storage of recycled water:

- > MUST be used solely for this purpose and signed as such –“recycled water-not for drinking”
- > MUST NOT be used for the storage of drinking water, recycled water of lesser quality or chemicals.

Approval process

To gain approval for the cartage and use of recycled wastewater applicants should contact the Department for Health and Ageing to request an application form. Information required includes:

- > Name and contact details of local Council/company seeking approval to operate
- > Details of vehicle type, size and use
- > Volume of recycled water to be used
- > Source of recycled water
- > Proposed method of distribution (e.g. direct spray from tanker, manual hose attachment, etc.)
- > Intended storage (where applicable) including the method and type of storage and storage capacity (generally only Mawson Lakes recycled water is able to be transferred to secondary storage)
- > Sites or types of use (i.e. irrigation specifying municipal or residential use, e.g. oval, park, median strip, tennis court, garden)

Once the application has been approved by the Department for Health and Ageing, applicants should contact SA Water regarding collection of the recycled water.

Additional information will be required for the use of recycled water from sites other than Mawson Lakes or Glenelg including:

- > Site characteristics
- > Position and use of nearby buildings and the proximity of dwellings, public areas and roads
- > Buffer zones
- > Public access
- > Time of irrigation/use
- > Additional signage

Additional Requirements

A log book is to be kept by the water carter for each vehicle in which at least the following information will be recorded:

- > Date of delivery/use
- > Volume of water delivered/used
- > Intended use of water (e.g. irrigation of tennis court, garden bed or lawned area, storage)
- > Name and address of the recipient/customer

In areas served by a SA Water supply:

- > If recycled water is to be delivered to secondary storage for use through a permanent irrigation system, SA Water must be contacted 10 working days PRIOR to the initial delivery of water
- > Such systems will be required to undergo an inspection and approval process to ensure compliance with SA Water requirements (e.g. adequate backflow prevention measures in place)

Further information

Local Councils or private operators intending to undertake carting of recycled water are encouraged to contact the Department for Health and Ageing for further information and advice prior to submitting details for approval.

Contact:

Public Health Services

Phone: 8226 7100

Email: waterquality@sa.gov.au

SA Water on 1300 650 951

For more information

Public Health Services
SA Health
1st floor, Citi Centre Building
11 Hindmarsh Square
Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone: 08 8226 7100
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

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www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons



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