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8.00am - 4.00pm MON - FRI

# Decommissioning Septic Systems

HEALTH (TREATMENT OF SEWAGE AND DISPOSAL OF EFFLUENT AND LIQUID WASTE) REGULATIONS 1974

## DECOMMISSIONING SEPTIC SYSTEMS

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley 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. However, you are legally obligated to decommission the apparatus within 60 days of a change of use i.e. subdivision, or ownership of the premises, or before building work commences where foundations for a building are to be built closer than 1.2m to a septic tank, 1.8m from a leach drain or where a building is proposed above an apparatus.

## STEPS INVOLVED

When decommissioning, only a licensed Liquid Waste Contractor is to be used.

1. Empty all septic tanks, soak wells, leach drains or other on-site disposal systems.
2. Remove the leach drains, soak wells and tanks (or if impractical remove the lids and break the base of the tanks)
3. Backfilling the excavation, tanks, soak wells and leach drains with clean fill (e.g. yellow sand and then thoroughly compacted).
4. Submit the completed form including photographs to provide evidence that the septic systems have been suitably decommissioned.

## 1. APPLICANT DETAILS

Property Details	
Owners Details	
Plumber /Contractor	
Postal Address	
Contact no.	
Reasons Why - Apparatus to be decommissioned	<input type="checkbox"/> Property connected to sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Material change in the use of the premises <input type="checkbox"/> Foundations for a building on the premises are to be built closer than 1.2 metres from the apparatus <input type="checkbox"/> Building is to be constructed above the apparatus <input type="checkbox"/> An on-site apparatus fails (system is no longer able to dispose of the wastewater in a compliant manner)  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____

**2. DECLARATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_

**(Name of Licensed Contractor)**

of \_\_\_\_\_

**(Address)**

hereby declare that the septic system previously installed on Lot No \_\_\_\_ House No \_\_\_\_

Street Name \_\_\_\_\_ Suburb \_\_\_\_\_

was decommissioned on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ 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,
- 2. the apparatus:

in the case of the septic tanks or aerobic treatment units, had the base of the tank broken and/or was ... **(circle one):**

**backfilled in situ                      removed                      broken up and backfilled**

**Total number of tanks decommissioned \_\_\_\_\_**

and the soak wells or leach drains were .....

**backfilled in situ                      removed                      broken up and backfilled**

**Number of soak wells/leach drains decommissioned \_\_\_\_\_**

and the resultant voids backfilled with clean sand and compacted.

.....

Signature

Date    /    /