



Decommissioning of a Septic Apparatus

Information

The decommissioning of a septic apparatus involves the following steps;

1. Pumping out of the septic tanks by a by a licensed liquid waste contractor. The contractor will then provide a receipt.
2. Removal of the entire septic apparatus, which includes all septic tanks, soak wells / leach drains. 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. Backfilling the holes left behind must 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, the alternative option is to completely break the base of the septic tanks and then back fill the entire system (septic tanks, soak wells/leach drains) with clean sand then compacted to prevent any possible voids. It is recommended, however that the septic system be completely removed particularly where there may be an intention to further develop a property.

Notifying the Shire of Coolgardie:

Upon decommissioning of the septic apparatus, it is imperative that the Shire is notified in order to keep an accurate record of existing systems within the Shire.

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 / 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 for decommission:

The Shire of Coolgardie 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. Legally however you must decommission the apparatus 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 you require more information, please contact an Environmental Health Officer on 9080 2111 during office hours.



Decommissioning of a Septic Apparatus

To: Manager Development Services
Shire of Coolgardie
PO Box 138
Kambalda WA 6442

Phone: 9080 2111
Fax: 9027 3125

I, _____
(name of demolition 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 abovementioned R 1. 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 ...

(please tick 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.

Signed by the Demolition Contractor or his agent on this date ____/____/____

Print name _____

Signature _____